



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**

Mary T. Bassett, MD, MPH
Commissioner

September 4, 2018

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc
Assistant Commissioner
Bureau of Immunization

42-09 28th Street, CN21
Queens, NY 11101-4132

Dear Principal:

As the start of the 2018-2019 school year approaches, I want to remind you that all students attending all New York City (NYC) schools and child care facilities are required to be vaccinated in compliance with New York State Public Health Law §2164 (NYS PHL §2164). For the 2017-2018 school year, NYC public schools achieved a high compliance rate of 99%. This is a reflection of your strong commitment to enforcing the school immunization requirements.

The law mandates that students be in compliance with specific immunization requirements to attend school. Principals or directors are responsible for ensuring that students are in compliance with school immunization requirements and that students not in compliance are excluded from school in accordance with NYS PHL §2164.

The goal for the 2018-2019 school year is to assure that at least 99% of all NYC's school children are in compliance in accordance with NYS PHL §2164. The highlights of the changes in effect for the 2018-19 school year in NYC are as follows:

- Students entering grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 are required to have 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine. Grades 4 and 10 were added to these requirements. One dose of varicella vaccine is required for all other grades.
- Students entering grade K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 are required to have 4 doses of polio vaccine, unless the 3rd dose was received at 4 years of age or older, in which case only 3 doses are required. Grades 4 and 10 were added to these requirements. Three doses of polio vaccine are required for all other grades.
- Students entering grades 7, 8, and 9 are required to have 1 dose of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY). Grade 9 was added to this requirement. In addition, students entering grade 12 are required to have received 2 doses of MenACWY; if the 1st dose of MenACWY was received at age 16 years of age or older, then only 1 dose is required. If two doses of MenACWY were administered before age 16 years, then a third dose given on or after age 16 years is required.
- Influenza vaccine: Children 6 months through 59 months in a NYC-regulated childcare programs, including Head Start, Nursey, or Pre-K and 3-K, must receive at least one dose of influenza vaccine between July 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018.

The full requirements (SH-65 form) are available at:

https://cdn-blob-prd.azureedge.net/prd-pws/docs/default-source/default-document-library/medical-and-immunization-requirements-sh65.pdf?sfvrsn=46f7b660_2.

The school requirements are in alignment with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Recommendations with respect to number of doses required of each vaccine and the intervals between doses; see

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules. A parent-friendly version of the 2018-2019 immunization requirements is available at: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/health-and-wellness/immunizations>.

As a reminder, daycares and schools are required to post influenza educational material, in plain view, within their facilities, in accordance with New York State Public Health Law section §613. Influenza material for distribution is available in multiple languages:

- Influenza Health Bulletin: www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/data/publications.page (search Keyword “influenza”). Health Bulletins can be ordered by calling 311.
- Seasonal Flu Guide for Parents: www.health.ny.gov/publications/2423/.

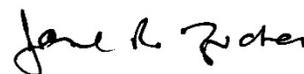
Please ensure that any new staff you have who will be working on immunization compliance have received training in the Automate the Schools (ATS) immunization modules and reports. Please reach out to your Children First Network (CFN) team health liaison for support with this work.

In an effort to aid schools in achieving high immunization compliance, ATS records for newly enrolled students will again be updated automatically with immunization information from the NYC Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR) this school year. This should save your staff time and lead to better compliance with the school immunization requirements. For other students, using the CIR can help your school obtain missing immunization records. If your school does not already have access to the CIR, please call 347-396-2400 and we can arrange access for you.

Parents or legal guardians, who have an IDNYC card, can search for their child’s immunization record and also check which vaccines they may need by visiting **My Vaccine Record** at <https://myvaccinerecord.cityofnewyork.us/myrecord/home.htm>. To learn how to access records, they can click on that site’s “Accessing Records” tab.

If you have questions about immunization requirements for school admission, please contact us at (347) 396-2433 or e-mail School_Immunizations@health.nyc.gov. Thank you for keeping NYC children safe from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Sincerely,



Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc
Assistant Commissioner