



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE

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Commissioner

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

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OFFICE OF SCHOOL HEALTH

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Dear Parent(s)/Guardians:

The New York City Department of Education is writing to inform you of new New York State immunization regulations that may affect your child. The list of immunization requirements for 2014 is enclosed. In order to attend school, you must submit proof of immunization to your child's school. Please remember that failure to have your child properly immunized may lead to exclusion from school.

Please note the following changes to the immunization requirements for the 2014-2015 school year:

- Two doses of varicella vaccine are required for all children entering Kindergarten and 6th grade.
- A minimum of three doses of poliovirus vaccine are required for all children. For children entering Kindergarten and 6th grade, one of these doses must have been given on or after age 4 years. If not your child will need an additional dose of poliovirus vaccine, which may mean they could receive a total of four or five doses.
- Children entering Kindergarten through 5th grade will require a minimum of four doses of DTaP vaccine (Diphtheria and Tetanus toxoids and Pertussis vaccine). One of these doses must have been given on or after age 4 years. If the fourth dose was given at age 4 or older, the fifth dose is not needed.

These changes are in addition to the existing requirements for Tdap (Tetanus and Diphtheria toxoids and Pertussis vaccine booster), MMR (Measles-Mumps-Rubella) and Hepatitis vaccines.

Two other important vaccines recommended for 11 year old boys and girls are:

- Meningococcal vaccine: prevents several types of bacterial meningitis
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine: prevents genital warts, cervical cancer, and anal cancer

Additional information about immunizations can be found at: www.immunize.org and www.cdc.gov/vaccines

Please consult your child's pediatrician for additional details concerning the New York State immunization requirements. If you need to find a medical provider or clinic for your child to obtain these vaccines, please call 311. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Lawrence, M.D, FAAP
Medical Director
Office of School Health