

Mississippi School Immunization Requirements

In order to enroll in any public or private kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school in Mississippi, a student must provide the school with a:

Certificate of Immunization Compliance (Form 121) **MUST** be signed by the Regional Health Officer, a physician, or a nurse.

or a

Certificate of Medical Exemption (Form 122 not computer generated). This form **MUST** be signed by the State Epidemiologist or Deputy State Epidemiologist (refer to the Medical Exemption section for specific information.)

The list of immunizations required is specified by the State Health Officer and is promulgated at least annually as directed by state statute. All vaccines are to be given at the appropriate age and intervals according to ACIP recommendations. The required vaccines are listed below.

Mississippi School Entry Immunization Requirements^a

Vaccine/antigen	No. of doses
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) ^b	5 ^c
Polio (IPV)	4 ^d
Hepatitis B	3
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)	2 ^e
Varicella (chickenpox)	2 ^f

- a. All children entering a Mississippi school (any grade) for the first time will be required to have the above listed immunizations. This includes Pre-K 4 year olds-12th grade.
- b. Children entering a Mississippi school after their 7th birthday who do not meet the above DTaP requirements, will need at least 3 total doses of diphtheria/tetanus containing vaccine (Td). Tdap should be used as 1 of the 3 diphtheria/tetanus containing vaccines (preferably as the 1st of the 3 doses) for children age 10 years and older. Refer to the Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices (ACIP) catch up schedule at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/index.html>
- c. If the 4th dose is received on or after the 4th birthday, a 5th dose is not required.
- d. The final dose in the series should be administered at 4 years of age, regardless of number of previous doses. A 4th dose is not necessary if the 3rd dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months following the previous dose.
- e. MMR vaccine may only be waived if there is a documented physician's diagnosis of previous infection with measles, mumps and rubella disease or a serological confirmation of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella.
- f. Varicella vaccine will be waived for evidence of past infection, including past history of chickenpox or a serological confirmation of immunity to chickenpox.

Mississippi 7th Grade School Immunization Requirements

Vaccine/antigen	No. of doses
Tdap (7 th grade entry)	1 ^g

- a. Effective 2012-2013 school year all students entering, advancing or transferring into 7th grade will need proof of an adolescent whooping cough (pertussis) booster, aka Tdap vaccine, before entry into school in the fall. Tdap vaccine given on or after the 7th birthday meets the school requirement.



DESOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS

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Dear Parents,

The current Mississippi Immunization Law states "All students entering the 7th grade must have documentation from a physician verifying that they have received a recent Tdap vaccination (at age 7 or later). This includes new students, current students, and transfer students." Due to this requirement, we **require a new Certificate of Immunization (Form 121) on each student entering, advancing or transferring into the 7th grade. The Form 121 must have all previous shots listed on it, as well as the Tdap booster that is required. All of this must be on one form.** We cannot accept a Form 121 with just one shot listed on it.

You can bring the new completed Form 121 to the school as soon as you get it. You do not have to wait until summer registration.

We want to give you advance notice of this so that you will have time to take your child and get the required vaccination and paperwork. **In order for students to attend the first day of school in August, the parent must submit the proper form with the required immunizations.**

If you have any questions about immunization requirements, please contact your local Health Department.

Thank you,

DeSoto County School District