

Immunization Requirement for School Entry

All students are required to have an updated Certificate of Immunization, prior to entering kindergarten or first grade or prior to re-entering the higher grade as mandated by the State of Alabama (Code of Alabama 1975, §16-30-4). The Certificate of Immunization must be on the form approved by the Alabama Department of Public Health.

Children entering school at the start of the school year are required by Alabama Law to present a Certificate of Immunization known as a "Blue Card". Children entering Kindergarten need boosters of DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis), Polio, MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella) and Varicella. These shots complete the childhood series for Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Measles, Mumps and Rubella. Children age 11 and entering the 6th grade need a Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, and Pertussis) vaccination. If you are unsure whether your child needs shots, check with your pediatric provider or the local county health department. For more information, visit the Alabama Department of Public Health website at www.adph.org/immunization

Religious Exemption

A written objection from the parent or guardian of a student or child based on religious tenets and practices shall be submitted in person by the parent or guardian to the County Health Department for issuance of a Certificate of Religious Exemption from the required immunizations or testing.

Medical Exemption

A licensed physician can provide individual exemptions from the required immunizations or testing on a Certificate of Medical Exemption. The Certificate of Medical Exemptions is required to be on forms approved by the Alabama Department of Public Health and will be accepted in lieu of the Certificate on Immunization.

VACCINES REQUIRED For School

Prior to entering Alabama schools, each pupil in kindergarten through twelfth grade must* receive age-appropriate immunizations.

GRADE	REQUIRED						
	DTaP	IPV	MMR	Varicella	Hib	PCV	Tdap
Child Care Centers (By 12 Months of Age)	4	3	1	1	4	4	
K - 5	5	4	2	1			1
6 - 12	5	4	2	2**			

GRADE	RECOMMENDED				
	Rota	Hep A	HepB	HPV	MCV
Child Care Centers (By 12 Months of Age)	3	1	3		
K - 5		2	3		
6 - 12		2	3	3	2

Alabama law does not require vaccinations for students entering college. Contact your college for their vaccine requirements.

*Code of Alabama §16-30-4

**1 dose for <13 years of age or 2 doses for >13 years of age



FOR MORE INFORMATION
GO TO ADPH.ORG/IMMUNIZATION

