



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Joseph B. Morton
State Superintendent
of Education

March 23, 2010

Alabama
State Board
of Education

MEMORANDUM

Governor Bob Riley
President

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education
City and County School Nurses

Randy McKinney
District I
Vice President

FROM: Joseph B. Morton
State Superintendent of Education

Betty Peters
District II

RE: Revised Immunization Rules

Stephanie W. Bell
District III

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Immunization Division, has announced revisions to the *Alabama Administrative Code* rule entitled Immunization of Children in Schools and Congregated Care Settings. The principal changes affect required entry into a licensed day care, head start, and public or private school (K-12).

Dr. Ethel H. Hall
District IV
Vice President
Emerita

The Pnuemococcal vaccine is now a *required* vaccine. Children entering daycare must have four doses of the Pnuemococcal vaccine up to age 15 months. This information is particularly important for those local education agencies (LEAs) that have pre-K programs. Additionally, effective August 2010, all students (11 or 12 years of age) entering the sixth grade will *require* a booster dose of tetanus-diphtheria toxoid and acellular pertussis vaccine (Tdap) prior to enrollment instead of the Td (tetanus-diphtheria toxoid vaccine) for entry into the eleventh grade.

Ella B. Bell
District V

This requirement will escalate by one successive grade each year until 2016. Therefore, until 2014, students entering eleventh grade will still need to show evidence of having had an adolescent Td booster (preferably given as Tdap).

David F. Byers, Jr.
District VI

The Alabama Certificate of Immunization (IMM 50 or "blue slip") has been updated to accommodate the revisions. Until July 31, 2010, there will be two acceptable revision dates: 3/2008 and 10/2009. Students who have current blue slips on file will not be required to submit a new one (10/2009) until their current one expires. *STIHealth* is also scheduled for updates to include the revisions.

Gary Warren
District VII

Attached are copies of the revised rules, blue slip, and an informational flyer for review. The ADPH will provide additional flyers to each local education agency for distribution to parents regarding the new requirements. Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Sherry Marbury, State School Nurse Consultant, at (334) 242-8165.

Dr. Mary Jane Caylor
District VIII
President Pro Tem

Joseph B. Morton
Secretary and
Executive Officer

JBM/FJ/SM

Attachments

FY10-2084

RULES
OF
THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

CHAPTER 420-6-1
IMMUNIZATION OF CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS AND CONGREGATED CARE SETTINGS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

420-6-1-.01 Authority	420-6-1-.03 Immunization Schedule
420-6-1-.02 General Provisions	420-6-1-.04 Vaccine Shortages

420-6-1-.01 Authority. This regulation is promulgated by the State Health Officer and approved by the State Board of Health pursuant to Code of Alabama, 1975, § 16-30-5 and is made applicable to children in child care centers/homes under the authority of Code of Ala, 1975 §38-7-1, *et seq.* and *Alabama Administrative Code*, Chapters 660-5-25 and 660-5-26 and 660-5-27.

Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, §16-30-5, *et seq.*

Author: Donald E. Williamson, M.D., Charles H. Woernle, M.D., M.P.H.

History: October 1, 1982

Amended: Filed September 17, 2009, Effective October 23, 2009.

420-6-1-.02 General Provisions.

(1) The board of education and the governing authority of each private school shall require each pupil, prior to entering kindergarten or first grade or prior to re-entering the higher grades of the schools of Alabama, to present a Certificate of Immunization for the prevention of diseases listed in 420-6-1-.03 (Code of Alabama, 1975, §16-30-4.). The Certificate of Immunization will be on a form approved by the Alabama Department of Public Health.

(2) The Department of Human Resources has required each child two months of age or older attending any child care center/home to present a Certificate of Immunization for the prevention of diseases listed in 420-6-1-.03.

(3) Such certificate shall be on the form approved by the Alabama Department of Public Health and shall be made a part of the pupil's school/child's child care center/home record. When a student/child leaves a school/child care center/home upon graduation, transfer, relocation or otherwise; the school or child care center/home may return the original certificate to the student's/child's parents/guardians and retain a legible copy in the institution's record.

(4) 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. A licensed physician can provide individual exemption from

the required immunizations or testing on a Certificate of Medical Exemption. The Certificate of Religious Exemption and the Certificate of Medical Exemption will be on forms approved by the Alabama Department of Public Health and will be accepted in lieu of the Certificate of Immunization.

Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, §16-30-5, et seq.

Author: Donald E. Williamson, M.D.; Charles H. Woernle, M.D., M.P.H.

History: October 1, 1982; Amendment June 11, 1993; Amended: Filed 1/17/97, Effective 2/21/97.

Amended: Filed September 17, 2009, Effective October 23, 2009.

420-6-1-.03 Immunization Schedule.

- (1) Unless otherwise noted in paragraphs (2) and (3) below, vaccine doses should be administered according to the most recent version of the Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years, as published by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Vaccine doses administered ≤ 4 days before the minimum interval or age should be counted as valid. Doses administered ≥ 5 days earlier than the minimum interval or age should not be counted as valid doses and should be repeated as age-appropriate.
- (2) Except as provided in Chapter 420-6-1-.02 and in the Code of Alabama, 1975, §16-30-4, each pupil, prior to entering Alabama school grade kindergarten through twelfth grade shall receive age-appropriate immunizations as below:
 - (a) 5 doses of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (DTaP). Only 4 doses are needed if the fourth dose was administered on or after the fourth birthday. Booster doses of tetanus and diphtheria toxoids vaccine (Td) must be given 5-10 years after the preschool booster. However, effective for students entering sixth grade beginning fall of 2010, a booster dose of tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (Tdap) must be given at 11 or 12 years of age. This requirement will escalate by one successive grade each year for the following 6 years to include sixth through twelfth grades, beginning fall of 2016.
 - (b) 4 doses of inactivated polio vaccine. Only 3 doses are needed if the third dose was administered on or after the fourth birthday.
 - (c) immunization against mumps and rubella.
 - (d) 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine.
 - (e) varicella vaccine subject to the following schedule unless there is documentation of a positive varicella titer or a date of varicella disease. This requirement is effective for students entering kindergarten beginning fall of 2001 and will escalate by one successive grade each year for the following 12 years to include

all grades, kindergarten through twelfth, beginning fall of 2013:

- (i) 1 dose of varicella vaccine at 12 months of age or older for persons less than 13 years of age;
- (ii) 2 doses of varicella vaccine separated by at least 28 days for persons 13 years of age or older beginning the vaccination series.
- (3) Children entering any child care center/home shall, in addition to the vaccines listed above, also receive age-appropriate immunizations for:
 - (a) *Haemophilus influenzae* type b; and
 - (b) Pneumococcal disease using pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, §16-30-5, et seq

Author: Donald E. Williamson, M.D., Charles H. Woernle, M.D., M.P.H.

History: Filed May 19, 1989; Amended: Filed July 20, 1990; December 19, 1990. Emergency Amendment Filed: March 20, 1992. Permanent Amendment Filed: July 22, 1992.

Amended: Filed January, 17, 1997, Effective February 21, 1997.

Amended: Filed July 19, 2000, Effective September 3, 2000.

Amended: Filed September 20, 2002, Effective December 25, 2002.

Amended: Filed October 21, 2005, Effective November 25, 2005.

Amended: Filed September 17, 2009, Effective October 23, 2009.

420-6-1-.04 Vaccine Shortages

When the State Health Officer determines that there is a vaccine shortage of one or more vaccines whether statewide or localized, affecting the ability of the health care system to assure that all children have access to age-appropriate immunizations required for school entrance by Alabama Administrative Code, Chapter 420-6-1-.03, the State Health Officer may notify affected health care providers about the supply shortage(s) and authorize such providers to validate a certificate of immunization despite one or more indicated, age-appropriate vaccinations not being administered because of vaccine shortage. Such validation will be accomplished by the provider affixing a department-supplied sticker to the individual child's certificate to indicate a new expiration date, not to exceed one year from the current date or the end of the school term for which the certificate is due, whichever shall be later.

Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, Section 16-30-5, et seq.

Author: Charles H. Woernle, M.D., M.P.H.

History: March 20, 2002. Effective June 18, 2002

Alabama Department of Public Health

CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNIZATION

Child's Name (first, middle, last)

Birthdate

Date of Expiration
(Next required immunization)

Parent/Guardian Name (first, middle, last)

Unless specifically exempted by law, Alabama law (Code of Alabama 1975, Section 16-30-4) requires a certificate on file for each child in attendance in all schools and licensed child care facilities in Alabama. Instructions for this form and immunization requirements by age are detailed via the ADPH website at www.adph.org/immunization.

VACCINE	DOSE 1 DATE			DOSE 2 DATE			DOSE 3 DATE			DOSE 4 DATE			DOSE 5 DATE			DOSE 6 DATE			Total Doses	Confirmed Lab		History	
	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY		MM	YY	MM	YY
Required Vaccines for School or Child Care Attendance																							
DTP, DTaP, DT, Td, Tdap																							
IPV, OPV																							
Hib (Under Age 5)																							
Measles																							
Mumps																							
Rubella																							
PCV																							
Varicella																							
Recommended Vaccines																							
Hep A																							
Hep B																							
HPV																							
MCV or MPSV																							
Rotavirus																							

Notes:

A licensed physician or qualified employee of the Alabama Dept. of Public Health is responsible for the content of this certificate. All dates must include the month, day, and year. In cases of history of disease or laboratory confirmation, the month and year of infection, or test must be filled in the appropriate box(es). **The certificate is NOT valid without the name and birthdate of the child, date of expiration, legible name and address of the physician or health department, certified by signature, and the date of issue.** A school or facility official is responsible for keeping a current valid Certificate on file for each child in attendance. **When a child leaves or transfers to another facility, the Certificate of Immunization should be given to a parent/guardian.**

Printed, Typed, or Stamped Name, Address, and Telephone # of Licensed Physician or Health Dept.

Clinic Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: () - _____

Certified by (Signature)

Date of Issue

Attention Parents and Providers!



NEW IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT FOR 6TH GRADE ENTRY

Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, a dose of Tdap vaccine will be required for Alabama students ages 11 or 12 years entering 6th grade. This requirement will escalate by one successive grade each year for the following 6 years to include sixth through twelfth grades, beginning fall of 2016. You can help minimize the rush by encouraging vaccination well before the school requirement takes effect.

Important Vaccinations for Your Adolescent

The Alabama Department of Public Health Immunization Division and the Alabama Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics encourage you to keep track and make sure that your child receives all vaccines recommended or required in order to prevent diseases. There are four vaccines required or recommended for your adolescent child. Read about these vaccines and the diseases they help prevent below.

Immunizations recommended for persons 11 through 18 years of age^a

Vaccination	Required or Recommended	For whom does the ACIP/CDC ^b recommend this vaccine?	What does this vaccine help protect against?	What are some of the symptoms of these diseases?	When is the vaccine given?
Tdap^c	Required * For all 11-12 year old adolescents in 6th grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All adolescents 11 through 18 years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 serious bacterial diseases Tetanus: also known as "lockjaw" Diphtheria: upper respiratory disease Pertussis: also known as "whooping cough" 	<p>Tetanus: Painful tightening of the muscles</p> <p>Diphtheria: Difficulty in breathing; can lead to paralysis, heart failure</p> <p>Pertussis: Severe coughing spells and vomiting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 dose during adolescence
Meningococcal	Recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All adolescents 11 through 18 years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meningococcal disease including blood infection (sepsis) and meningitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial symptoms can be flu-like (including fever), stiff neck, rash Can lead to hearing loss, amputation, seizures, coma, shock, or death within 48 hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 dose during adolescence
HPV^d	Recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All females 11 through 26 years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sexually transmitted infection caused by the human papillomavirus Can cause cervical cancer or genital warts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No symptoms at first 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 doses over 6 months
Influenza (Seasonal)	Recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children 6 months through 18 years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza virus: the "flu" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever, sore throat, cough, head and muscle aches, extreme tiredness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One dose each year Children 6 months–8 years of age: 2 doses may be needed 4 weeks apart^e
Varicella	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children 12 months through 18 years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chickenpox 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A skin rash of blister-like lesions, usually on the face, scalp, or trunk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One dose required^e Two doses recommended^e

Other vaccines recommended include Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B.

* Changes in the Alabama Blue Card for the 2010-2011 School Year: **Tdap is now required for all 11-12 year olds.**

^a Additional vaccines may be recommended depending on the child's vaccination history and risk factors. Please see the complete vaccination schedule at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/child-schedule.htm>

^b ACIP = Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices; CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

^c Tdap = Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis.

^d HPV = Human papillomavirus.

^e See the School Immunization Law

The above vaccination information and additional immunization facts are available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/spec-grps/preteens-adol.htm>