



SCHOOL VACCINATION INFORMATION FOR NURSES

The school immunization regulations are intended to ensure that children attending school in the commonwealth are protected against potential outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases.

GUIDELINES FOR VACCINATIONS:

- A child must have a single dose vaccine on the first day or risk exclusion.
- In the case of a multi-dose vaccine, a child must have at least one dose of the vaccine on school entry or risk exclusion.
- If the child has at least one dose of a vaccine, and additional doses of a vaccine are necessary and are medically appropriate during the first five days of school, the child must either obtain final dose or have the next scheduled dose and provide a medical certificate scheduling remaining doses.
- If the child has at least one dose and additional doses of a vaccine are necessary but are not medically appropriate during the first five days of school, the child may provide a medical certificate on or before the fifth day scheduling the remaining doses.
- A child may still obtain a medical, religious or philosophical/strong moral or ethical conviction exemption from meeting the immunization requirements.
- Per CDC recommendations: For children aged 7-10 who are fully vaccinated, if Tdap is administered inadvertently or as part of the catch-up series, the Tdap dose should not be counted as valid. The adolescent Tdap dose should be administered as recommended when this child is aged 11-12 years.

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND DESIGNEES:

- Requirement to review medical certificate and child's compliance at least every 30 days.
- Ability to exclude a child who does not comply with the dates in the submitted medical certificate.
- Exempting a child who is homeless from exclusion by following the McKinney Vento Act.
- Exempting a child who is transferring from a school or country outside the commonwealth and cannot provide records from exclusion for 30-days.
- Providing limited waiver of vaccine requirements in the event of a disaster impacting ability of children transferring into a school to provide records, or in the event of a nationally recognized vaccine shortage.
- Reporting period due electronically by December 31.

FIND MORE DETAILS ON SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REGULATIONS:

dontwaitvaccinate.pa.gov

