

**Guidelines for Assuring Minimum Immunization Requirements for
Pre-Kindergarten Program Enterers**

All children entering Pre-Kindergarten programs should be age appropriately immunized.¹ The following guidelines for parents and school personnel indicate the **minimum** number of doses for each vaccine needed for Pre-Kindergarten entry.^{2,3}

Hepatitis A	2 doses (1 st dose after 1 st birthday) (2 nd dose at least 6 months after 1st dose)	Hepatitis B	3 doses (Final dose at age 24 weeks or older)
DTaP	4 doses (Booster dose should not be given prior to 4 th birthday)	Varicella	1 dose (After 1 st birthday)
IPV	3 doses	MMR	1 dose (After 1 st birthday)
Hib	<p>4 doses (3 doses if Pedvax[®] or Comvax[®] are used for full series) Children starting the series at greater than 6 months of age generally need: 3 doses if the first dose was given between 7-11 months of age 2 doses if the first dose was given between 12-14 months of age 1 dose if that dose was given between 15 and 59 months of age</p> <p>RULE: Any one dose of Hib vaccine after 15 months of age is the final dose needed</p>		
PCV	<p>4 doses Children starting the series at greater than 6 months of age generally need: 3 doses if the first dose was given between 7-11 months of age 2 doses if the first dose was given at 12-23 months of age 1 dose if that dose was given between 24-59 months of age</p> <p>RULE: any one dose of PCV between 24-59 months of age is the final dose needed <u>for pre-K entry</u> (Some at-risk children are recommended for an additional dose at age 5-18.)</p>		

Students may be provisionally enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten with at least one dose of each required vaccine and allowed up to eight months to obtain up-to-date status.

For questions about the Pre-Kindergarten Entry Immunization Guidelines above contact the Division of Immunization Services at 1-800-642-3634.

¹ Applicable immunization schedules can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov> by searching under "Immunization Schedules".

² The term "Pre-Kindergarten" or "Pre-K" applies to designated programs for children ages 3 and 4 years old. The above vaccines are requirements for all WV public Pre-K programs in accordance with WVDE Policy 2525 (126CSR28), Universal Access to a Quality Early Education System. This includes any "WV Collaborative" Pre-K program supported through local education agencies (LEAs). Medical exemptions to the above should be granted in accordance with current standards of immunization practice endorsed by the AAP, AAFP, and ACIP.

³ These guidelines are also applicable to children age 18 months and older entering most childcare or preschool settings.

The West Virginia Bureau for Public Health recommends that vaccine doses administered 4 days or fewer before the minimum interval or age should be considered valid.

West Virginia Immunization Requirements for New School Enterers

State law and rules¹ require that all children entering school in West Virginia for the first time in grades K-12 must show proof of immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella and hepatitis B unless properly medically exempted². The table below outlines immunization requirements as most commonly met.³ The West Virginia Bureau for Public Health recommends that vaccine doses administered 4 days or fewer before the minimum interval or age should be considered valid.

Vaccine	Requirement	Provisional Enrollment	Additional Information
DTaP/DTP Td/Tdap	Before admission, four doses required. One dose must be after the 4 th birthday.	After one dose, student may be allowed up to 8 months to complete the series.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three doses only for children completing primary series at age 7 years and older. • Children exempted from the pertussis component of DTaP vaccine should receive DT vaccine instead, or if past 7th birthday, Td / Tdap vaccine, as applicable.
Polio (IPV)	Before admission, three doses required. One dose must be after the 4 th birthday.	After one dose, student may be allowed up to 90 days to complete the series.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If polio immunization series included both OPV and IPV, then a total of 4 doses are required.
Measles, Mumps & Rubella (MMR)	Before admission, two doses required. First dose must be after the 1 st birthday.	After one dose, student may be allowed up to 30 days to complete the series.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doses should be a minimum of 28 days apart.
Varicella	Before admission, two doses required. First dose must be after the 1 st birthday.	After one dose, children less than 13 years of age may be allowed up to 90 days to obtain 2 nd dose; children aged 13 years and older may be allowed up to 30 days to obtain the 2 nd dose.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children less than 13 years of age must have a minimum interval of 12 weeks between the 1st and 2nd doses. • Children aged 13 years and older may receive the 2nd dose 28 days after the first dose. • Immunity may also be demonstrated through the legal guardian's written or verbal attestation of varicella (chickenpox) disease.
Hepatitis B	Before admission, three doses required. Last dose must be after the age of 6 months.	After one dose, student may be allowed up to 4 months to complete the series.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final dose is not valid if administered before 24 weeks / 6 months of age.

¹ See WV Code §16-3-4 and 64CSR95 for further information.

² Medical exemptions must be requested by a physician who has treated or examined the child and be reviewed and approved by the local health officer in the county in which the child attends school. Requests for exemptions must be based on current standards of immunization practice and include the following information: the vaccine(s) being exempted, the specific medical reason for the exemption, whether the exemption is temporary or permanent, and, if temporary, when the exemption should be reevaluated. West Virginia State Law does not allow for non-medical exemptions to immunization requirements.

³ Occasionally, based on product used or the age at which a child is being immunized, deviations from these requirements may be acceptable. Any deviation must be consistent with applicable, age appropriate immunization schedules found at <http://www.cdc.gov> and searching under "Immunization Schedules".

West Virginia Immunization Requirements for 7th & 12th Graders

State law and rules¹ require that all children entering school in West Virginia in grades 7 and 12 must show proof of immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, and meningococcal disease unless properly medically exempted². The table below outlines immunization requirements as most commonly met.³ The West Virginia Bureau for Public Health recommends that vaccine doses administered 4 days or fewer before the minimum interval or age should be considered valid.

7th Grade School Entry Requirement

Vaccine	Requirement	Provisional Enrollment
Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis)	Proof of booster dose of Tdap vaccine	No provisional enrollment permitted
MCV4 (meningococcal / meningitis)	Proof of 1 st dose of MCV4 vaccine	No provisional enrollment permitted

12th Grade School Entry Requirement

Vaccine	Requirement	Provisional Enrollment
Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis)	Proof of booster dose of Tdap vaccine	No provisional enrollment permitted
MCV4 (meningococcal /meningitis)	One or two doses required. One dose of MCV4 is required if received <u>after</u> the 16 th birthday. Second dose is required if first dose was before 16 th birthday.	No provisional enrollment permitted

Frequently Asked Questions / Answers regarding these requirements may be found online at

[http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/immunization/Documents/Immunization%20Articles/
School_Entry_Immunization_Requirements_for_7th_12th_Grades_2014.pdf](http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/immunization/Documents/Immunization%20Articles/School_Entry_Immunization_Requirements_for_7th_12th_Grades_2014.pdf)

¹ See WV Code §16-3-4 and 64CSR95 for further information.

² Medical exemptions must be requested by a physician who has treated or examined the child and be reviewed and approved by the local health officer in the county in which the child attends school. Requests for exemptions must be based on current standards of immunization practice and include the following information: the vaccine(s) being exempted, the specific medical reason for the exemption, whether the exemption is temporary or permanent, and, if temporary, when the exemption should be reevaluated. West Virginia State Law does not allow for non-medical exemptions to immunization requirements.

³ Occasionally, based on product used or the age at which a child is being immunized, deviations from these requirements may be acceptable. Any deviation must be consistent with applicable, age appropriate immunization schedules found at <http://www.cdc.gov> and searching under "Immunization Schedules".