Childcare includes nursery or preschool programs (4K and younger) or any licensed childcare center. Children enrolled in childcare must be up to date on the following shots based on their age.

- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- DTaP (whooping cough, tetanus)
- Polio
- Pneumococcal (pneumonia)
- Haemophilus influenzae Type b (Hib)
- MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
- Varicella (chickenpox)

Infectious diseases such as measles, chickenpox, and whooping cough can spread quickly among babies and children who haven't had their shots. That’s why it’s so important to vaccinate all children. In the event of a disease outbreak, unvaccinated children may be excluded from the childcare setting to protect them and prevent further spread of disease.

Children who are fully vaccinated by age 2 are protected against 14 harmful diseases.

Follow these steps to make sure your child is up to date.

1. **Schedule** regular checkups as recommended by your child’s healthcare provider.
2. **Ask** your child’s healthcare provider about the vaccines your child needs.
3. **Obtain** a new South Carolina Certificate of Immunization every time your child has a shot.
4. **Give** a copy of the new South Carolina Certificate of Immunization to your childcare provider.

You can also get your child’s vaccines at South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control health departments. For an appointment, call 855-472-3432.