



5K–12 IMMUNIZATION INFO FOR PARENTS

South Carolina School Immunization Requirements 2023–2024

Students enrolled in grades 5K to 12 in both public and private schools must be up to date on the following shots based on their grade level:

- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- DTaP (tetanus, whooping cough)
- Polio
- MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
- Varicella (chickenpox)
- Tdap (whooping cough booster required before seventh grade)

Vaccines are important to protect students from diseases such as measles, chicken pox, and whooping cough, which can spread easily in schools.

Follow these steps to make sure your child is ready for school.

1. **Schedule** your child's well visit/physical early before school starts. Spring or summer break is a great time to get this done so you won't run into any delays once school begins.
2. **Ask** your child's healthcare provider what vaccines they recommend. Some vaccines are not required for school attendance but are highly recommended by physicians for all students.

When every student receives an annual flu vaccine it protects schools from flu outbreaks. Adolescents also need the HPV vaccine to protect against cancers. Vaccines are also needed to protect against meningitis.

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 child's school.

All children starting 5K will need two hepatitis A shots. Any students new to the state in grade three or lower must begin the hepatitis A series before enrolling; a second shot should be given six months later. Hepatitis A vaccine is given as early as age 12 months, followed by a second shot six months later. Talk to your child's healthcare provider at your child's next visit.

You can also get your child's vaccines at South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control health departments.

