

NC BACK TO SCHOOL Immunization Requirements

Grade Level Entry Vaccine Requirements*



DTaP	5 doses
Polio	4 doses
Hib (4-YEAR-OLDS ONLY)	3-4 doses
MMR (or 2 measles, 2 mumps, 1 rubella)	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses
Varicella	2 doses
Pneumococcal conjugate (4-YEAR-OLDS ONLY)	4 doses



DTaP	5 doses
Polio	4 doses
MMR (or 2 measles, 2 mumps, 1 rubella)	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses
Varicella	1 dose
Tdap	1 dose
Meningococcal conjugate	1 dose



DTaP	5 doses
Polio	4 doses
MMR (or 2 measles, 2 mumps, 1 rubella)	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses
Varicella	1 dose
Tdap	1 dose
Meningococcal conjugate (EFFECTIVE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR)	2 doses

* At all ages and grades, the number of doses required may vary by a child's age and when they were vaccinated.





NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES






NC Department of Health and Human Services • Division of
Public Health • Women's and Children's Health Section •
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	Flu Influenza	Tdap Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis	HPV Human papillomavirus	Meningococcal		Pneumococcal	Dengue	Hepatitis B	Hepatitis A	Polio	MMR Measles, mumps, rubella	Chickenpox Varicella
				MenACWY	MenB							
7-8 Years	Green	Orange		Orange		Orange		Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
9-10 Years	Green	Orange	Purple, Yellow checkered	Orange		Orange	Green: ONLY in places where dengue spreads	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
11-12 Years	Green	Orange	Green	Orange		Orange	Green: ONLY in places where dengue spreads	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
13-15 Years	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange		Orange	Green: ONLY in places where dengue spreads	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
16-18 Years	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange, Green	Orange, Blue	Orange	Green: ONLY in places where dengue spreads	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
More information:	Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every year if they do not have contraindications	All 11- through 12- year olds should get one shot of Tdap.	All 11- through 12- year olds should get a 2-shot series of HPV vaccine. A 3-shot series is needed for those with weakened immune systems and those who start the series at 15 years or older.	All 11- through 12- year olds should get one shot of meningococcal conjugate (MenACWY). A booster shot is recommended at age 16.	Ages 10 years and older at increased risk should receive a serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccine. Ages 16–18 years old who are not at increased risk may be vaccinated with a MenB vaccine.		Ages 9-16 years who live in dengue endemic areas AND have laboratory confirmation of previous dengue infection					

COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for ages 5 years and older.
Talk to your child’s doctor or nurse about the vaccines recommended for their age.

-  These shaded boxes indicate when the vaccine is recommended for all children unless your doctor tells you that your child cannot safely receive the vaccine.
-  These shaded boxes indicate the vaccine is recommended for children with certain health or lifestyle conditions that put them at an increased risk for serious diseases. See vaccine-specific recommendations at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/.

-  These shaded boxes indicate the vaccine **SHOULD** be given if a child is catching up on missed vaccines.
-  This shaded box indicates children not at increased risk **MAY** get the vaccine if they wish after speaking to a provider.
-  This shaded box indicates children not at increased risk may get the vaccine if they wish after speaking to a provider.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

American Academy of Pediatrics
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Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and the Vaccines that Prevent Them

Disease	Vaccine	Disease spread by	Disease symptoms	Disease complications
Chickenpox	Varicella vaccine protects against chickenpox.	Air, direct contact	Rash, tiredness, headache, fever	Infected blisters, bleeding disorders, encephalitis (brain swelling), pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Dengue	Dengue vaccine protects against dengue.	Bite from infected mosquito	May be no symptom, fever, headache, pain behind the eyes, rash, joint pain, body ache, nausea, loss of appetite feeling tired, abdominal pain	Severe bleeding, seizures, shock, damage to liver, heart, and lungs, death
Diphtheria	Tdap* and Td** vaccines protect against diphtheria.	Air, direct contact	Sore throat, mild fever, weakness, swollen glands in neck	Swelling of the heart muscle, heart failure, coma, paralysis, death
Hepatitis A	HepA vaccine protects against hepatitis A.	Direct contact, contaminated food or water	May be no symptoms, fever, stomach pain, loss of appetite, fatigue, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine	Liver failure, arthralgia (joint pain), kidney, pancreatic and blood disorders, death
Hepatitis B	HepB vaccine protects against hepatitis B.	Contact with blood or body fluids	May be no symptoms, fever, headache, weakness, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), joint pain	Chronic liver infection, liver failure, liver cancer, death
Human Papillomavirus	HPV vaccine protects against human papillomavirus.	Direct skin contact	May be no symptoms, genital warts	Cervical, vaginal, vulvar, penile, anal, oropharyngeal cancers
Influenza (Flu)	Flu vaccine protects against influenza.	Air, direct contact	Fever, muscle pain, sore throat, cough, extreme fatigue	Pneumonia (infection in the lungs), bronchitis, sinus infections, ear infections, death
Measles	MMR*** vaccine protects against measles.	Air, direct contact	Rash, fever, cough, runny nose, pink eye	Encephalitis (brain swelling), pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Meningococcal Disease	MenACWY and MenB vaccines protect against meningococcal disease.	Air, direct contact	Sudden onset of fever, headache, and stiff neck, dark purple rash	Loss of limb, deafness, nervous system disorders, developmental disabilities, seizure disorder, stroke, death
Mumps	MMR*** vaccine protects against mumps.	Air, direct contact	Swollen salivary glands (under the jaw), fever, headache, tiredness, muscle pain	Meningitis (infection of the covering around the brain and spinal cord), encephalitis (brain swelling), inflammation of testicles or ovaries, deafness, death
Pertussis	Tdap* vaccine protects against pertussis.	Air, direct contact	Severe cough, runny nose, apnea (a pause in breathing in infants)	Pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Pneumococcal Disease	Pneumococcal vaccine protects against pneumococcal disease.	Air, direct contact	May be no symptoms, pneumonia (infection in the lungs)	Bacteremia (blood infection), meningitis (infection of the covering around the brain and spinal cord), death
Polio	Polio vaccine protects against polio.	Air, direct contact, through the mouth	May be no symptoms, sore throat, fever, nausea, headache	Paralysis, death
Rubella	MMR*** vaccine protects against rubella.	Air, direct contact	Sometimes rash, fever, swollen lymph nodes	Very serious in pregnant women—can lead to miscarriage, stillbirth, premature delivery, birth defects
Tetanus	Tdap* and Td** vaccines protect against tetanus.	Exposure through cuts on skin	Stiffness in neck and abdominal muscles, difficulty swallowing, muscle spasms, fever	Broken bones, breathing difficulty, death

*Tdap combines protection against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis.

**Td combines protection against diphtheria and tetanus.

***MMR combines protection against measles, mumps, and rubella.

If you have any questions about your child's vaccines, talk to your child's doctor or nurse.

North Carolina Vaccine-Specific Requirements

The North Carolina General Statutes (G.S. 130A-152(a)) require immunizations for every child present in this state. Every parent, guardian or person in loco parentis is responsible for ensuring that their child(ren) receive required immunizations. If you have specific questions regarding your child, please contact your child's health care provider or your local health department. North Carolina requires the following immunizations:

Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis

Five doses (DTaP). Three doses by age seven months and two booster doses, the first by age 19 months and the second on or after the fourth birthday and before entering school for the first time. If the fourth dose was administered on or after the fourth birthday, the fifth dose is not required.

A booster dose of tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap) vaccine is required for individuals who have not previously received it and are entering the seventh grade or by 12 years of age, whichever comes first.

Individuals entering college or university for the first time on or after July 1, 2008 must have had three doses of tetanus/diphtheria toxoid; one of which must be tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis.

Meningococcal

Two doses. One dose is required for individuals entering the seventh grade or by 12 years of age, whichever comes first, on or after July 1, 2015. A booster dose is required for individuals entering the 12th grade or by 17 years of age, whichever comes first. Individuals who entered seventh grade before July 1, 2015 are not required to receive the first dose. The booster dose does not apply to individuals who entered the 12th grade before August 1, 2020. If the first dose is administered on or after the 16th birthday, a booster dose is not required. Individuals born before January 1, 2003 shall not be required to receive meningococcal conjugate vaccine.

Required vs. Recommended

North Carolina law requires children receive certain vaccines. But in order to be fully protected from vaccine-preventable diseases, children should receive all age-appropriate immunizations.

For more information about vaccine preventable diseases and immunizations recommended, please refer to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#), and the [Immunization Action Coalition](#).

