



DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES

2024-2025 Back-to-School Immunization Requirements Rising 7th Grade Students, New Entrants/Students Grades 8-12th and 11th Grade Students

<u>7th Grade</u>: All 7th-grade students who were born on or after January 1, 2002, and all new entrants to grades 8-12 who are entering a Georgia school for the first time or entering after having been absent from a Georgia school for more than twelve months (one school year) will be required to have:

1 Dose of Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) Vaccine
and
1 Dose of Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine

PLEASE NOTE: These changes only affect rising 7th graders (born on or after January 1, 2002), and students who are considered "new entrants" for grades 8-12.

11th Grade: All students entering or transferring into the 11th grade will need proof of a meningococcal booster (MCV4) unless their first dose was received on or after their 16th birthday. Meningococcal disease is a serious bacterial illness that affects the brain and the spinal cord. Meningitis can cause shock, coma, and death within hours of the first symptoms. To help protect your children and others from meningitis, Georgia law requires students to be vaccinated against this disease unless the child has an exemption.

Additionally, the Georgia Certificate of Immunization Form 3231 is a requirement for all students to register for school. The Certificate of Immunization Form 3231 can be obtained from a community provider/physician and/or local health departments who should have access to GRITS (The Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services). Proof of both vaccinations MUST be documented on the Certificate of Immunization Form 3231.

The Georgia Department of Public Health has developed an *Affidavit of Religious Objection to Immunization Form 2208* for use by students enrolling in a public school who wish to submit a **religious exemption**. You can find the form at https://dph.georgia.gov/schoolvaccines under Religious Exemption.

Please check to make sure your student has all required vaccinations even if the certificate is marked complete. If the Certificate is marked complete and the child does not have the required vaccines, he/she must return to their primary care provider or public health center to receive the required vaccines and be issued a new/updated certificate.

For more information, visit the Georgia Department of Public Health - https://dph.georgia.gov/schoolvaccines or call 404-657-3158; or the Fulton County Board of Health - https://fultoncountyga.gov/inside-fulton-county/fulton-county-departments/board-of-health/public-health/immunizations or call 404-612-4000.