



## SCHOOL VACCINATION INFORMATION FOR NURSES

The school immunization regulations are intended to ensure that children attending school in the commonwealth are protected against potential outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases.

### GUIDELINES FOR VACCINATIONS

- A child must have a single dose vaccine on the first day or risk exclusion.
- In the case of a multi-dose vaccine, a child must have at least one dose of the vaccine on school entry or risk exclusion.
- If the child has at least one dose of a vaccine, and additional doses of a vaccine are necessary and are medically appropriate during the first five days of school, the child must either obtain the final dose or have the next dose scheduled and provide a medical certificate showing the scheduling of the remaining doses.
- If the child has at least one dose and additional doses of a vaccine are necessary but are not medically appropriate during the first five days of school, the child may provide a medical certificate on or before the fifth day scheduling the remaining doses.
- A medical, religious or philosophical/strong moral or ethical conviction exemption from meeting the immunization requirements may be obtained.
- Per CDC recommendations, routine vaccination: Adolescents age 11–12 years: 1 dose Tdap  
Catch-up vaccination: Tdap administered at 7–10 years:
  - Children age 7–9 years who receive Tdap should receive the routine Tdap dose at age 11–12 years.
  - Children age 10 years who receive Tdap do not need to receive the routine Tdap dose at age 11–12 years.

### GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND DESIGNEES:

- Requirement to review medical certificate and child's compliance at least every 30 days.
- Ability to exclude a child who does not comply with the dates in the submitted medical certificate.
- Exempting a child who is homeless from exclusion by following the McKinney Vento Act.
- Exempting a child who is transferring from a school or country outside the commonwealth and cannot provide records from exclusion for 30-days.
- Providing limited waiver of vaccine requirements in the event of a disaster impacting ability of children transferring into a school to provide records, or in the event of a nationally recognized vaccine shortage.
- Data for reporting period due electronically by December 31st each year.

### FIND MORE DETAILS ON SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REGULATIONS:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/immunizations/Pages/School.aspx>