



## **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. This requirement includes all types and formats of education provided online, hybrid or in person.

### **GUIDELINES FOR VACCINATIONS:**

- A child must have a single dose vaccine, such as MCV4 in seventh grade, by the first day of school, or risk exclusion.
- In the case of a multi-dose vaccine, a child must have at least one dose to attend school on the first day and be medically up to date by the fifth day or risk exclusion the sixth day. If additional doses of a vaccine are necessary and are not medically appropriate, the child must provide a medical certificate scheduling remaining doses by the fifth day to continue to attend school.
- If a parent has a medical, religious, or philosophical/strong moral or ethical conviction against vaccines, they may provide a written signed notice of exemption.
- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP) guidance should be followed to ensure proper spacing of all vaccinations.

### **GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND DESIGNEES:**

- Review medical certificate and child's compliance at least every 30 days.
- May exclude a child who does not comply with the dates in the submitted medical certificate.
- A child who is homeless may be exempt from exclusion through the McKinney Vento Act. The school liaison should be working with all families of children listed as homeless to immunize the children as soon as possible.
- A child who is transferring from a school or country who cannot provide records may be exempt from exclusion for 30-days.
- Provide limited waiver of vaccine requirements in the event of a disaster, declared by the Pennsylvania Secretary of Health, impacting ability of children transferring into a school to provide records, or in the event of a nationally recognized vaccine shortage.
- Report annually in the School Immunization Law Report (SILR) which should be submitted electronically during the period of December 1 to 31.

### **FIND MORE DETAILS ON SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REGULATIONS:**

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