

**COLUMBUS COUNTY SCHOOLS**  
817 Washington St., Whiteville, NC 28472  
(910) 642-5168

**IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR NC PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTRY**

**rev 3/14/18**

**30 CALENDAR DAY DEADLINE:** If a certificate of immunization/health assessment is not presented on or before the first day, the principal shall present a notice of deficiency to the parent, guardian, or responsible person. The parent, guardian, or responsible person shall have 30 calendar days from the first day of attendance to present the required certificate of immunization/health assessment for the child. Upon termination of 30 calendar days, the principal shall not permit the child to attend the school until the required certificate of immunization and/or health assessment has been presented.

**HEALTH ASSESSMENT GS 130A-440**

**Every child in North Carolina public schools, entering Kindergarten or a higher grade for the first time are required by law to submit proof of a health assessment.** The health assessment shall be made no more than 12 months prior to the date the child would have first been eligible for initial entry in the public schools. The health assessment must be conducted by a physician licensed to practice medicine, a physician's assistant (GS. 90.1a), a certified nurse practitioner, or a public health nurse meeting the Department's Standards for Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Screening. The health assessment shall include a medical history and physical examination with screening for vision/hearing and if appropriate, testing for anemia and tuberculosis; it may also include dental screening and developmental screening for cognition, language and motor function.

**IMMUNIZATION LAW GS 130A-155**

**The parent/guardian shall present a Certificate of Immunization on the child's first day of attendance.**

Below are the immunizations required for school entry. For complete information, please visit [www.immunize.nc.gov](http://www.immunize.nc.gov).

**Diphtheria/ tetanus/ pertussis (whooping cough) - five doses:** three doses by age seven months; and 2 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. However: Individuals who receive the first booster dose of diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis vaccine on or after the fourth birthday are not required to have a second booster.

**Poliomyelitis vaccine - four doses:** two doses of trivalent type by age five months; a third dose trivalent type before age 19 months; and a booster dose of trivalent type on or after his or her fourth birthday and before entering school for the first time. However: An individual attending school who has attained his or her 18th birthday is not required to receive a polio vaccine. The requirements for the booster dose on or after the fourth birthday do not apply to individuals who began school before July 1, 2015. Individuals who receive the third dose of poliomyelitis vaccine on or after the fourth birthday are not required to receive a fourth dose if the third dose is given at least six months after the second dose.

**MMR (Measles-Mumps-Rubella)**

**Measles (rubeola) vaccine - two doses** of live, attenuated vaccine administered at least 28 days apart: the first dose on or after age 12 months and before age 16 months; and a second dose before entering school for the first time. However: An individual who has been documented by serological testing to have a protective antibody titer against measles is not required to receive measles vaccine.

**Rubella vaccine - one dose** of live, attenuated vaccine on or after age 12 months and before age 16 months. However:

An individual who has laboratory confirmation of rubella disease or who has been documented by serological testing to have a protective antibody titer against rubella is not required to receive rubella vaccine.

**Mumps vaccine – two doses:** the first dose of live, attenuated vaccine administered on or after age 12 months and before age 16 months; and a second dose before entering school, college or university for the first time. However:

An individual who has laboratory confirmation of disease, or has been documented by serological testing to have a protective antibody titer against mumps is not required to receive the mumps vaccine.

**Haemophilus influenzae, b conjugate vaccine** - three doses of HbOC or PRP-T or two doses of PRP-OMP before age 7 months and a booster dose of any type on or after age 12 months and by age 16 months. **However: No individual who has passed his or her fifth birthday is required to be vaccinated against Haemophilus influenzae, b.**

**Hepatitis B vaccine – three doses:** the first dose by age 3 months, a second dose before age 5 months and a third dose by age 19 months. However: The last dose of the hepatitis B vaccine series shall not be administered before 24 weeks of age.

**Varicella vaccine – two doses** administered at least 28 days apart; one dose on or after age 12 months of age and before age 19 months; and a second dose before entering school for the first time. However: An individual who has laboratory confirmation of varicella disease immunity or has been documented by serological testing to have a protective antibody titer against varicella is not required to receive varicella vaccine. An individual who has documentation from a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant verifying history of varicella disease is not required to receive varicella vaccine. The documentation shall include the name of the individual with a history of varicella disease, the approximate date or age of infection, and a healthcare provider signature. The requirement for the second dose of varicella vaccine shall not apply to individuals who enter Kindergarten or first grade for the first time before July 1, 2015.

**Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine – Four doses;** 3 doses by age 7 months and a booster dose at 12 through 15 months of age. **However: No individual who has passed his or her fifth birthday shall be required to be vaccinated against pneumococcal disease.**

**7<sup>th</sup> GRADE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS (new July 2015)**

**A booster dose of tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine-Tdap** 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.

**7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE (entering after July 1, 2015) & 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE (entering after August 1, 2020) IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS (new July 1, 2015)**

**Meningococcal conjugate vaccine – 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 by 17 years of age or by entering the 12th grade. However: The first dose does not apply to individuals who entered seventh grade before July 1, 2015.

The booster dose does not apply to individuals who entered the 12<sup>th</sup> grade before August 1, 2020. If the first dose is administered on or after the 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, a booster dose is not required. An individual born before January 1, 2003 shall not be required to receive a meningococcal conjugate vaccine.

**FOUR DAY RULE:** *The healthcare provider shall administer immunizations in accordance with this Rule. However, if a healthcare provider administers vaccine up to and including the fourth day prior to the required minimum age, the individual dose is not required to be repeated. Doses administered more than four days prior to the requirements are considered invalid doses and shall be repeated.*

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