

WHY ARE VACCINES IMPORTANT?

Vaccination is one of the best ways parents can protect infants, children and teens from 16 potentially harmful diseases. Vaccine-preventable diseases can be very serious, may require hospitalization, or even be deadly – especially in infants and young children.

Which Children Have to Follow These Rules?

These rules apply to any child attending a public or private school, including religious-based schools, as well as children participating in school sanctioned activities.

Which Vaccines Does My Child Need to Have?

To attend a WY school, children must have the following vaccinations as appropriate for the child's age:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (DTaP/Tdap)
- Hepatitis B (HepB)
- *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (HIB)
- Polio (IPV)
- Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)
- Pneumococcal (PCV-13)
- Rotavirus (RV1/RV5)
- Varicella (VAR)

When Should My Child Receive These Vaccinations?

In regard to age, number of doses, and time between doses, vaccines should be administered according to the **Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)**

Recommended Immunization Schedules found at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/child-adolescent.html>.

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What Document(s) Do I Need to Take to My Child's School or Child Care?

Parents must provide schools with a certified immunization record from the Wyoming Immunization Registry (WyIR), a U.S. licensed physician, or a Public Health Authority, or provide another form of evidence of immunity, or an approved waiver.

What Happens If I Do Not Provide Proof of Vaccination?

If the required documentation is not received within **30 calendar days** of entry, administrators must exclude the child from attending.

What If My Child Did Not Have the Varicella Vaccine Because He/She Actually Had the Chickenpox?

Parents must have a Verification of Disease form or other statement from a physician. The form is available at www.immunizewyoming.com.

What If I Choose Not to Vaccinate My Child?

Wyoming does allow for parents to apply for a waiver to the mandatory immunizations based on genuine religious objection or a medical contraindication. Please note that Wyoming statute does not allow for a waiver based on philosophical or personal beliefs. Information about this process and relevant forms can be found at www.immunizewyoming.com.

How Do I Get a Copy of My Child's Immunization Record?

Option 1: Request a Record from Your Healthcare Provider.

Please check with your provider to ask if they can give you a complete immunization record for you or your child. They can print it from the Wyoming Immunization Registry (WyIR) or from their own medical record system.

Option 2: Submit a Request to WDH.

To request the disclosure of immunization information, submit Proof of Identity and the WDH Authorization to Release Health Records form found at www.immunizewyoming.com.

Option 3: Grant Consent to School to Access the WyIR.

With consent, schools are able to access immunization information from the WyIR for students.

What Diseases Do These Vaccines Protect My Child Against?

Diphtheria: which causes heart failure, paralysis (can't move parts of the body), breathing problems, coma, swelling of the neck and throat, and death.

Tetanus: which causes "locking" of the jaw, difficulty in swallowing and breathing, seizures (jerking and staring), painful tightening of muscles in the head and neck, and death.

Pertussis (whooping cough): which causes severe coughing fits that can cause vomiting and exhaustion, pneumonia, seizures, brain damage, and death.

Hepatitis B: which causes jaundice (yellow skin or eyes), life-long liver problems, such as scarring and liver cancer, and death.

H. Influenzae infections which causes paralysis (can't move parts of the body), meningitis (infection of the brain and spinal cord covering), permanent disability, and death.

Poliovirus which causes paralysis (can't move parts of the body), meningitis (infection of the brain and spinal cord covering), permanent disability, and death.

Measles: which causes pneumonia, seizures (jerking and staring), brain damage, rash and death.

Mumps: which causes meningitis (infection of the brain and spinal cord covering), painful swelling of the testicles or ovaries, sterility, deafness, swollen salivary glands and death.

Rubella: which causes rash, arthritis, and muscle or joint pain.

Pneumonia (lung infection) which causes fever, chills, cough, difficulty breathing and chest pain.

Meningitis which is an infection of brain tissue and the spinal cord. Symptoms include stiff neck, fever, headache, light sensitivity and confusion.

Bacteremia (blood infection). Symptoms include fever, chills and low alertness.

Sepsis which can lead to tissue damage, organ failure and death. Symptoms include confusion, high heart rate, shortness of breath, extreme pain, and fever.

Rotavirus which may cause watery diarrhea, vomiting, fever, stomach pain, and dehydration.

Varicella-zoster virus which may cause severe skin infections, pneumonia, brain damage, and death.



WYOMING IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Information for parents and guardians on the Wyoming immunization requirements for children attending schools, child caring facilities, and preschools.



Wyoming Department of Health-Immunization Unit

www.immunizewyoming.com

307-777-7952

