

A Healthy Start to Kindergarten



HEALTH
DEPARTMENT
of Northwest Michigan

800-432-4121 nwhealth.org

Entering kindergarten is a major milestone, and it's important for your child to be in good health for school. We can help your child's healthy start with:

IMMUNIZATIONS

Kindergarten students must show proof of having had the required immunizations for Michigan schools by the first day of school. Parents wishing to waive immunizations for religious or philosophical reasons must make an appointment at the local health department for waiver education. Students with true medical contraindications to immunizations must see their doctor to receive a *Medical Contraindication Waiver Form*. The health department provides FREE immunizations to children without health insurance and bills Medicaid, Healthy Kids, MiChild, and several private insurances. 800-432-4121

HEARING & VISION SCREENINGS

Your child's ability to see and hear is important to the learning process. **A vision test is required prior to school entry.** Appointments are available in each county for free vision and hearing screenings. In cooperation with your school district, hearing and vision testing is offered through your child's school years according to the following schedule:

Vision: Preschool, grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9. Hearing: Preschool, K, grades 2 and 4.

PHYSICAL EXAM

Your school may require a physical exam for school entry. You are encouraged to make an appointment with your family physician.

DENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

New for this year, Michigan passed a law to give children the opportunity to receive a dental assessment prior to starting school, called the Michigan Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment Program (KOHA) to help ensure each student is healthy and ready for a successful school year. If your child(ren) will not be present the day the school has onsite oral health assessments, you may have the [MDHHS Health Appraisal form](#) completed by your dentist. After you download your form, please visit your dental home for completion. Need help or no insurance? The health department partners with Dental Clinics North to ensure health mouths, regardless of insurance status and income—with dental clinics in Alpena, Cheboygan, East Jordan, Gaylord, Mancelona, Petoskey, Traverse City, and West Branch. 877-321-7070.

MEDICAID HEALTHY KIDS & MiChild

Healthy Kids provides free health insurance coverage for pregnant women and children ages 0 to 19. Coverage can include doctor visits, immunizations, prescriptions, hospital expenses, counseling and any other services normally covered by Medicaid. The income allowance for Healthy Kids is higher for pregnant women and infants up to their first birthday (\$4,509 per month for a family of 4; \$3,700 for a family of 4 with children ages 1 to 19).

MiChild is a health insurance program for uninsured children ages 0-19. A family of 4 with a monthly income less than \$4,903 is eligible. Doctor visits, immunizations, prescriptions, dental, vision, counseling & hospital care are all covered. The cost is \$10 per child with a maximum of \$20 per family. If you have another insurance with high deductibles, you may still qualify for MiChild. 800-432-4121.

WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN (WIC)

WIC is a food and nutrition program for pregnant women, breastfeeding women, women who have had a baby in the last six months, infants, and children up to age five. WIC clients are offered nutrition education, information about how children grow and develop, and how to access community resources. WIC provides free foods such as: milk, yogurt, juice, cheese, eggs, cereal, peanut butter, fruits and vegetables, juice, tuna, infant formula, and infant cereal. A family of 4 with a monthly income less than \$4,278 may be eligible. 800-432-4121.

No health insurance? Assistance in applying for free or low-cost health insurance is available by calling the health department at 800-432-4121. No child is denied immunizations due to an inability to pay. Contact your child's primary care provider or your local health department to schedule an appointment.

2023 Recommended Immunizations for Children from Birth Through 6 Years Old

VACCINE	Birth	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	4 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	15 MONTHS	18 MONTHS	19-23 MONTHS	2-3 YEARS	4-6 YEARS
HepB Hepatitis B	HepB	HepB			HepB						
RV* Rotavirus			RV	RV	RV*						
DTaP Diphtheria, Pertussis, & Tetanus			DTaP	DTaP	DTaP		DTaP				DTaP
Hib* Haemophilus influenzae type b			Hib	Hib	Hib*	Hib					
PCV13, PCV15 Pneumococcal disease			PCV	PCV	PCV	PCV					
IPV Polio			IPV	IPV	IPV						IPV
COVID-19** Coronavirus disease 2019					COVID-19**						
Flu* influenza					Flu (One or Two Doses Yearly)*						
MMR Measles, Mumps, & Rubella						MMR					MMR
Varicella Chickenpox						Varicella					Varicella
HepA* Hepatitis A						HepA*		HepA*			



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call toll-free: 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)
Or visit: cdc.gov/vaccines/parents



American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS, PLEASE CALL 1-800-432-4121

BELLAIRE	HEALTH DEPARTMENT – 209 Portage Dr.
BOYNE CITY	BOYNE CITY EDUCATION CENTER – 321 S. Park St.
CHARLEVOIX	HEALTH DEPARTMENT – 220 W. Garfield
GAYLORD	HEALTH DEPARTMENT – 95 Livingston Blvd.
MANCELONA	HEALTH DEPARTMENT – 205 Grove St.
PETOSKEY	HEALTH DEPARTMENT – 3434 M-119, Suite A
PELLSTON	HORNET HEALTH CENTER – 172 Park St.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.