

Immunizations

The Texas Department of State Health Services

Phone: (940) 665-9315

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**Include a cover sheet with specified instructions*

Address: 1714 Justice Center Blvd, Ste A

Gainesville, TX 76240

Appointments are available on variable days. Call for (940) 665-9315, option #5.

*Accepts Medicaid, insured and un-insured.

The Immunization Clinic offers all recommended vaccines for children and adults, including Typhoid.

Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Students Grades K-12

THIS CHART SUMMARIZES THE VACCINE REQUIREMENTS INCORPORATED IN THE [TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE \(TAC\), TITLE 25 HEALTH SERVICES, §§97.61-97.72](#). THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT INTENDED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE TAC, WHICH HAS OTHER PROVISIONS AND DETAILS. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES (DSHS) IS GRANTED AUTHORITY TO SET IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS BY THE [TEXAS EDUCATION CODE, CHAPTER 38](#).

[2024-2025 Immunization Requirements for Schools](#)

[2024-2025 Immunization Requirements PreK](#)

A student shall show acceptable evidence of vaccination before entry, attendance, or transfer to a child-care facility or public or private elementary or secondary school in Texas.

Exemption Information - School Immunizations

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Exemptions for Medical Reasons

The law allows physicians to write a statement stating that the vaccine(s) required would be medically harmful or injurious to the health and well-being of the child. The written statement by the physician must be submitted to the school nurse. Unless it is written in the statement that a lifelong condition exists, the exemption statement is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.

Requesting an Exemption for Reasons of Conscience

The law allows parents/guardians to choose an exemption from immunization requirements for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. The completed and returned form from the Texas DSHS must be submitted to the school nurse for the student to be admitted. The school will accept only the original official affidavit forms developed and issued by the Texas DSHS. The affidavit will be valid for two years. _

- Please note: In the case of an outbreak, an unimmunized child may be prohibited from school attendance.
- **Any form presented for conscientious objection to immunization must be presented before the student may start school and must be updated every two years by the anniversary date.**
- **If the Affidavit is not current, the student will not be allowed to stay in school.**

Requesting an Affidavit Online

Affidavits may be requested via the Immunization Section [Affidavit Request website](#). It is recommended individuals use the Microsoft Edge web browser when submitting a vaccine exemption request online. Other web browsers may not function properly.

Requesting an Affidavit By Mail

A written request for an affidavit may be sent through the United States Postal Service (or another commercial carrier). [Print and then mail the Request for Exemption from Immunizations for Reasons of Conscience to:](#)

Texas Department of State Health Services
Immunization Section, Mail Code 1946
P.O. Box 149347
Austin, Texas 78714-9347

Requesting an Affidavit By Fax

[Print and then fax the Request for Exemption from Immunizations for Reasons of Conscience to:](#) (512) 776-7544.

Requesting an Affidavit In Person

NOTE: No requests will be filled at the time of hand-delivery of a request. All affidavit forms will be mailed to you via U.S. Postal Service.

Because the student had the disease

- Parents of students who had chicken pox disease (varicella) may submit a signed form to the campus nurse that indicates the date that the child had the disease. It may also be documented by the physician on the immunization record. The form is available here: [Documenting History of Varicella](#)

Immunity Documented by Lab Result (Immunity by Titer)

- Students who have had a lab test that shows they are immune to the following diseases may present a copy of the laboratory results instead of documentation of the vaccines:
 - Measles
 - Mumps
 - Rubella
 - Varicella (chicken pox)
 - Hepatitis A
 - Hepatitis B

[Meningitis Vaccine \(MCV4\) College Requirement Information](#)

- All entering students at an institution of higher education* are required to show proof of an initial meningococcal vaccination or a booster dose during the five years before enrolling. They must get the vaccine at least 10 days before the semester begins. See the exemptions section for more information on exemptions from these requirements.
- For more information about vaccine-preventable diseases, you may read the [Vaccine Information Statements](#) from the Texas DSHS.

VACCINE FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM (VFC)

The VFC Program: At a Glance

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program helps provide vaccines to children whose parents or guardians may not be able to afford them. This helps ensure that all children have a better chance of getting their recommended vaccinations on schedule. Vaccines available through the VFC Program are those recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices ([ACIP](#)). These vaccines protect babies, young children, and adolescents from [16 diseases](#).

Funding for the VFC program is approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and allocated through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC buys vaccines at a discount and distributes them to grantees—i.e., state health departments and certain local and territorial public health agencies—which in turn distribute them at no charge to those private physicians' offices and public health clinics registered as VFC providers.

Determining Eligibility

A child is eligible for the VFC Program if he or she is younger than 19 years of age and is one of the following:

- Medicaid-eligible
- Uninsured
- Underinsured [\[Click\]](#)
- American Indian or Alaska Native

Children whose health insurance covers the cost of vaccinations are not eligible for VFC vaccines, even when a claim for the cost of the vaccine and its administration would be denied for payment by the insurance carrier because the plan's deductible had not been met.

Locating a VFC Provider

Nationwide, there are over 44,000 doctors (nearly 40,000 sites) doctors enrolled in the VFC Program. Each state's [VFC Coordinator](#) can provide a list of doctors enrolled in the VFC Program. Other places that provide vaccinations are

- [Federally Qualified Health Center \(FQHC\)](#)
- [Rural Health Clinic \(RHC\)](#)

Related Pages

- [For Parents: VFC Questions and Answers](#)
- [For Providers: VFC Questions and Answers](#)
- [State VFC Web Sites](#)
- [Recommended Immunization Schedules \(ACIP\)](#)
- [Vaccine Supply Policy](#)
- [VFC Program Distribution of Pediatric Vaccines](#)