



# DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES

## 2025-2026 Back-to-School Immunization Requirements

## Rising 7th Grade Students & New Entrants/Students Grades 8-12th and 11th Grade Students

As we prepare for the upcoming 2025–2026 school year, we want to ensure that all students comply with Georgia's immunization requirements. This letter outlines important information regarding vaccinations required for students entering **7th and 11th grades**, as well as **new entrants in grades 8–12**.

#### **Required Immunizations**

### For Rising 7th Grade Students and New Entrants (Grades 8–12):

Georgia law requires the following immunizations for all 7th-grade students born on or after January 1, 2002, and for any student entering a Georgia school for the first time or returning after being absent for more than 12 months:

- 1 dose of Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) vaccine
- 1 dose of Meningococcal Conjugate (MCV4) vaccine

#### For Rising 11th Grade Students:

All students entering or transferring into 11th grade must provide proof of a **booster dose of the meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4)** unless the first dose was received **on or after their 16th birthday**. Meningococcal disease is a serious and potentially life-threatening illness that can affect the brain and spinal cord. Vaccination is a critical measure to protect your child and the community.

### **Certificate of Immunization Documentation (Form 3231)**

All students enrolling in Georgia schools must have a valid **Georgia Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231)** on file. This form must be completed by a physician or health provider and must show proof of all age-appropriate required vaccinations. The form can be obtained from your child's healthcare provider or a local health department, both of which should have access to the **Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS)**.

Even if your child's certificate is marked "complete," we strongly encourage you to verify that all required immunizations have been administered. If any required vaccines are missing, you will need to obtain them and submit an updated certificate before the start of school.

#### **Religious Exemptions**

If your family is seeking a religious exemption from immunization, the **Affidavit of Religious Objection to Immunization** (**Form 2208**) must be completed and submitted. This form is available on the Georgia Department of Public Health website: <a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/schoolvaccines">https://dph.georgia.gov/schoolvaccines</a>

#### More Information

For more information about the state-required immunizations and service locations, please visit the Georgia Department of Public Health and/or the Fulton County Board of Health website:

- GA DPH <a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/immunizations/child-and-adolescent-immunizations">https://dph.georgia.gov/immunizations/child-and-adolescent-immunizations</a> or call 404- 657-2700 or the
- Fulton County Board of Health <a href="https://fultoncountyboh.com/services/childrens-health/childrens-immunizations">https://fultoncountyboh.com/services/childrens-health/childrens-immunizations</a> or call 404-612-4000.

We appreciate your attention to these important health requirements and your commitment to keeping our school community safe and healthy.