

A change to Colorado's Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccine requirement for the 2026-2027 school year

Dear parents or guardians of sixth or seventh grade students,

Starting in the 2026-2027 school year, Colorado law will require students to receive a dose of Tdap vaccine **before their first day of seventh grade**. This is a change from the 2025-2026 school year and before, when Colorado law required a dose of Tdap vaccine before the first day of sixth grade.

What do I need to do as a result of this change?

If you have a student entering seventh grade in the 2026-2027 school year, you do not need to do anything if your student's school has **one** of the following on file:

1. An immunization record showing that your student had an adolescent dose of Tdap vaccine on or after their 10th birthday.
2. An in-process plan, signed by your child's health care provider, showing that your child is catching up on their tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis vaccine series.
3. A complete Certificate of Medical or Nonmedical Exemption for the Tdap vaccine.

My student's school does not have this documentation. What do I need to do?

Tdap vaccine is recommended for adolescents who are 11-12 years old and required by Colorado law before seventh grade entry, starting in the 2026-2027 school year.

Before your student's first day of seventh grade, their school will require:

- An immunization record showing your student received an adolescent dose of Tdap on or after their 10th birthday. Vaccines are available at [no or low cost throughout Colorado](#), or
- An in-process plan ([sample](#)) signed by your student's health care provider showing that your student is in the process of catching up on tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis containing vaccines, following the minimum intervals between doses described in the catch-up schedule, or
- A Certificate of Medical or Nonmedical Exemption, complete and with the Tdap vaccine selected, using [Colorado's process](#) and documented on Colorado's forms.

Students who are not in compliance with Colorado's immunization requirements must be excluded per Colorado Board of Health rule 6 CCR 1009-2.

If you need help finding free or low-cost vaccines, go to COVax4Kids.org, contact your [local public health agency](#), or dial [2-1-1](#) for information on Health First Colorado and vaccines in your area.

Learn more about [diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis: The diseases and vaccines](#).

Questions? Contact your child's health care provider or [local public health agency](#).