


# Immunization Requirements for Students Entering 6th Grade

The Wisconsin Student Immunization law requires that all students entering the 6th grade receive a dose of Tdap vaccine. To be compliant with the school law, parents must provide their child's school with proof of immunization or claim a waiver.

**1. What is the requirement?** All students entering grade 6-12 will **need one dose of Tdap** by the start of the school year.

**2. What is Tdap?** Tdap vaccine protects against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough). Tdap is **first given at 11-12 years of age.**

**3. What do parents need to do?** Have your child vaccinated with Tdap vaccine. Record the date of the immunization in the bold outlined box on the enclosed Student Immunization Record form, sign and return it to the Shawano Community Middle School.

**4. Are there exceptions to the Tdap vaccine requirements?** If your child will be entering grades 6-12 and already received a tetanus-containing vaccine (e.g. Td vaccine) within the last 5 years, your child is compliant and Tdap vaccine is not required at this time. To claim a personal, religious or medical waiver, follow the instructions on the Student Immunization Record and return the signed form to the Shawano Community Middle School.

**5. Where can I get Tdap vaccine for my child?** The Tdap vaccine may be available from your child's medical provider, tribal clinics and some pharmacies. The Shawano Menominee Counties Health Department may also provide free or low cost vaccines if your child is uninsured, has Medicaid, is Native American/Alaska Native, or their insurance does not cover vaccines.

**6. Are any other vaccines recommended for my adolescent?** Yes. There are other vaccines that are routinely recommended for teens. The human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV) protects against a virus that is a common cause of cancer. The meningococcal conjugate vaccine protects against meningococcal disease (meningitis), and an annual influenza vaccine is recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older.

**Not sure if your child is up to date?**

Check your child's immunization record in the:
**Wisconsin Immunization Registry**
https://www.dhfswir.org

Click on the link for:
**Public Immunization Record Access**
Directions are found here

If you have any questions about the Tdap vaccine or any other required or recommended vaccines please contact the District Nurses by email,
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