

## 2014 –2015 IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

The minimum immunization requirements for the 2014-2015 school year are listed below. Immunization records showing the following immunizations must be submitted **before the first day of the 2014-2015 school year**. **Students are not allowed to attend school without a current immunization record on file.**

### Immunization Requirements for Pre-K

#### **All students in Pre-K must have proof of:**

- 4 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT vaccine.
- 3 doses of Polio vaccine.
- 1 dose of MMR vaccine administered on or after 1 year of age.
- 1 dose of Varicella vaccine administered on or after 1 year of age.
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.
- 1 dose of Hepatitis A vaccine administered on or after 1 year of age for students younger than 42 months of age, 2 doses are required for students older than 42 months of age.
- 3 doses Pneumococcal vaccine with at least one dose being administered after 1 year of age; if 3 doses were received prior to 1 year of age, an additional dose is required (4 doses total). Only two doses are required if the first dose was on or after the first birthday and the child is not deemed to be high risk by the child's physician.
- 2 doses Hib vaccine plus a booster dose on or after 12 months of age. If the 1<sup>st</sup> dose was received at 12-14 months of age, only 1 additional dose is required; or 1 single dose on or after 15 months of age.

### Immunization Requirements for Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grades

#### **All students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grades must have proof of:**

- 5 doses of DTP/DTaP/ DT unless the 4<sup>th</sup> dose was given on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday, then only 4 doses are required. Three doses will meet the requirement for students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up if the last dose was given on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday. A dose of DTP/DTaP/DT must have been received on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday for all students.
- Tdap booster for all students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade if it has been five years or more since the last dose of tetanus containing vaccine. If 5 years have not passed at 7<sup>th</sup> grade entry, then the dose is due as soon as the 5 year interval has passed.
- 1 dose of Td (tetanus booster) is required every 10 years after the last dose of DTP/DTaP/ DT; Tdap is recommended as a replacement for the 1<sup>st</sup> Td booster. Students in grades 8 through 12 are required to have a booster dose of Tdap if it has been ten years since their previous dose of tetanus/diphtheria containing vaccine.
- 4 doses of Polio vaccine unless the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose was given on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday; a dose must have been received on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday for all students.
- 2 doses MMR vaccine, the first dose must have been given on or after the first birthday
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.
- 1 dose of Varicella vaccine on or after the first birthday. Two doses are required if the first dose was given at 13 years of age or older. **All students entering K through 4<sup>th</sup> grades, and 7<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grades will be required to have 2 doses of varicella vaccine if they have not had actual chickenpox disease.** For students who had chickenpox disease, an approximate month and year of chickenpox disease must be documented on the immunization record or the parent must send in a signed statement stating the approximate date their child had chickenpox disease.
- 2 doses of Hepatitis A vaccine for all students entering K through 4<sup>th</sup> grades.
- 1 dose of Meningococcal vaccine for all students entering 7<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grades.

### Immunization Exemptions

#### Medical Exemptions

The law allows physicians to write a statement if he believes a vaccine would be harmful to the health of a child. These statements must be dated and signed by the medical doctor and renewed annually unless the physician writes in the statement that it is a lifelong condition. For children needing medical exemptions, the physician's statement must be submitted to the school by the parent prior to the first day of school.

### **Exemption for Reasons of Conscience**

Exemptions for reasons of conscience, including religious beliefs are allowable. To claim this exemption from immunization for reasons of conscience, the parent or legal guardian must submit a written request to obtain the Affidavit of Exemption from Immunizations for Reasons of Conscience to the Department of State Health Services Immunization Branch, 1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78756. Fax: 512-458-7544. Affidavit request forms are usually processed by the DSHS and mailed within 2 weeks from receipt of the request. Once this form is received by the parent or legal guardian, they must sign and have the form notarized and submit the **original** form to the school. Copies are void and will not be accepted. Since proof of immunization status is required before the first day of school, **to claim this exemption, this form must be submitted prior to the first day of school. A new original copy of this form is required to be resubmitted every 2 years.**

In the event of a disease outbreak, the Texas Department of State Health Services may mandate that students having exemptions from immunizations be kept out of school until the outbreak is over as determined by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Comprehensive information about immunization requirements in the state of Texas can be found at [www.immunizetexas.com](http://www.immunizetexas.com)