



P. O. Box 850 • Caldwell, ID 83606 • (208) 455-5300 • FAX (208) 454-7722

News Release

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Laurie Boston
 (208) 455-5325
 (208) 899-1268 cell
laurie.boston@phd3.idaho.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHANGES IN CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Idaho's school and daycare immunization rules that require children in childcare, those entering kindergarten, and those entering seventh grade to have additional immunizations became effective on April 7, 2011. There may be some confusion if children registered for kindergarten before the current immunization requirements took effect, so parents should check with their medical provider to insure their child is fully immunized within the new requirements by August.

"You will be required to show your child's immunization record at registration and we want to make sure parents have adequate time to get their children immunized according to these guidelines, said Sandy Philippi, RN and Manager of Preventative Health Services for Southwest District Health. "Planning now will ensure all vaccinations are current before the start of the new school year," she said.

Philippi explained that there is a greater risk for the spread of infectious disease when groups of children are in close settings. Diseases such as chickenpox, measles, and whooping cough may spread quickly so making sure their immunizations are current provides additional protection for children.

To attend any childcare facility in Idaho, a child must receive the required, age-appropriate immunizations outlined below. Parents/guardians must present their child's immunization record to the childcare provider within 14 days of the child's initial attendance. Four additional immunizations for children in daycare were recommended in the past, but are now required. These include varicella (chicken pox); Hepatitis A; Pneumococcal (Prevnar); and Rotavirus.



CHILDCARE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

| Age-Deadline to Obtain Required Doses | REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS FOR DAYCARE ATTENDANCE | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------|---------|--|---|-------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|------------------------|
| | All doses must meet the minimum ages and intervals | | | | | | | | | |
| | DTaP | Polio | MMR | Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) ¹ | | Hepatitis B | Varicella | Hepatitis A | Pneumococcal | Rotavirus ¹ |
| | | | Act-Hib | Pedvax Hib | | | | | Rotarix (RV1) | RotaTec (RV5) |
| 3 months | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| 5 months | 2 | 2 | | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 7 months | 3 | | | 3 | 3 | 2 | | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 16 months | | | 1 | 4 | 3 | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 19 months | 4 | 3 | | | | 3 | | 4 | | |
| 2 years | | | | | | | | 2 | | |
| 7 years | 5 | 4 | 2 | | | | 2 | | | |

1. Number of doses required depends on vaccine brand type.
 2. DTaP: The 3rd dose is not necessary if the 4th dose was administered at age 4 years or older.
 3. Polio: The 4th dose is not necessary if the 3rd dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after previous dose.

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To enroll in or attend a public, private, or parochial school in Idaho a child born after September 1, 2005 will need two varicella (or documentation from a health care provider they have had chickenpox) and two Hepatitis A immunizations along with the other required vaccinations.

Two additional immunizations will be required for students entering the seventh grade, Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) booster and Meningococcal vaccine.

Idaho law allows a parent or guardian to claim an exemption from immunization requirements for their child for medical, religious, or personal reasons. All exemptions must be documented on the official State of Idaho form provided by Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Immunization Program.

If your child is not current on their immunizations, call your medical provider or Southwest District Health at 208.455.5345.

For more information:

www.swdh.org

www.immunizeidahoschools.com

www.immunizeidahochildcare.com

Important Links:

[Childcare Immunization Requirements](#)

[Childcare Facilities Immunization Requirements](#)

[Guide to the Idaho School Immunization Requirements for Parents](#)