



# Minimum Health Requirements 2025 - 2026



Evidence shows that healthy students have better attendance patterns and perform better academically. The State of Illinois requires parents/guardians to provide proof of required immunizations and school physical exams before October 15, 2025, or their child will face exclusion from school. For more information about CPS health requirements, contact your School Nurse.

Health insurance can provide children and their families with health care coverage that can be used for doctor's visits, immunizations, medications, dental care, eye exams, glasses, and more! Medicaid Insurance provides coverage for children in Illinois, regardless of immigration status.

If you would like help enrolling your child in health insurance, call the Healthy CPS Hotline: 773 553-KIDS (5437) or visit [cps.edu/cfbu](https://cps.edu/cfbu).

If you need help finding a health center near you, visit [findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov](https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov).



## Examination Requirements

### Physical Examination

Due upon enrollment or no later than 10/15/25

- Must be completed within 12 months prior to entry to: PE/PK, Kindergarten, 6th Grade, 9th Grade, and any student entering CPS for the first time.

### Vision Examination

Due upon enrollment or no later than 10/15/25 for:

- Entering the State of Illinois for the first time at any grade level.
- Entering kindergarten.

### Dental Examination

Due 5/15/26 for Kindergarten, 2nd, 6th, and 9th Grade.

## Recommended Vaccines

CPS recommends that if you have questions about which vaccines are best for you and your child, talk to your doctor or another healthcare professional who knows your health history.

**HPV:** Recommended to prevent some HPV (human papillomavirus)-related cancers. Recommended at age 11 or 12 years.

**COVID-19:** Helps protect you from severe illness, hospitalization, etc. Recommended for everyone 6 months and older.

**Influenza:** Recommended for all people 6 months and older to get a flu vaccine every year.

These vaccines are recommended by medical providers. They are not required in Illinois for a child to attend school. For more information visit: [cps.edu/vaccine](https://cps.edu/vaccine)



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## Immunization Requirements

### Due upon Enrollment or No Later Than 10/15/25

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommend children catch up on routine childhood vaccinations and get back on track for school, childcare, and beyond. Getting your child caught up with recommended and school-required vaccinations is the best way to protect them from a variety of vaccine-preventable diseases. The vaccines below are required by the State of Illinois for students attending school unless CPS receives an [Illinois Certificate of Religious Exemption Form](#).

To learn more about each vaccine type, talk with your child's healthcare provider or visit: [cdc.gov/vaccines/parents](https://cdc.gov/vaccines/parents).

### Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus

- **Early Childhood (PE/PK):** 3 doses of DTP or DTaP by 1 year of age. One additional booster dose by 2nd birthday.
- **First Entry into School (Kindergarten or 1st Grade):** 4 or more doses of DTP/DTaP with the last dose being a booster and received on or after the 4th birthday.
- **First Entry into School (Other Grades):** 3 or more doses of DTP/DTaP or Td; with the last dose qualifying as a booster if received on or after the 4th birthday.
  - Entering 6th grade, for students (under age 11), one dose of Tdap.
  - A dose of Tdap or DTaP administered at 10 years of age or later may now be counted as the adolescent Tdap booster.
- **Minimum interval between series doses:** 4 weeks (28 days). Between series and booster: 6 months.

### Polio

- **Early Childhood (PE/PK):** 2 doses by 1 year of age. One additional dose by 2nd birthday. 3 doses for any child 24 months of age or older appropriately spaced.
- **First Entry into School (Kindergarten or 1st Grade):**
  - Any child entering Kindergarten shall show proof of 4 doses with the last dose on or after the 4th birthday.
  - In accordance with the ACIP catch-up series a 4th dose of Polio is not needed if the 3rd dose was administered at age four or older and at least six months after the previous dose was administered.
- **First Entry into School (Other Grades):**
  - 3 or more doses of polio vaccine with the last dose on or after the 4th birthday.
- The 4-dose requirement applies to grades K-8.
- **Minimum interval between series doses:** 4 weeks (28 days).
- 4th dose at least 6 months after previous dose.

### Measles, Mumps, and Rubella

- **Early Childhood (PE/PK):** 1 dose on or after the 1st birthday.
- **Kindergarten through 12th Grade:** 2 doses of measles/mumps/rubella vaccine, the first dose must have been received on or after the 1st birthday and the second dose no less than 4 weeks (28 days) later.
- Proof of prior **measles** disease shall be verified by a physician and laboratory evidence.
- Proof of prior **mumps** disease shall be verified by a physician or laboratory evidence.
- Laboratory evidence of **rubella** immunity.

### Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)

- **Early Childhood (PE/PK):** Proof of immunization that complies with the ACIP recommendation for Hib vaccination. Children 24-59 months of age without series shall show proof of 1 dose of Hib vaccine at 15 months or older.
- **Kindergarten through 12th Grade:** Not required for any child 5 years of age or older.

### Invasive Pneumococcal Disease (PCV)

- **Early Childhood (PE/PK):** Proof of immunization that complies with ACIP recommendations for PCV. Children 24 to 59 months of age without a primary series of PCV, shall show proof of receiving 1 dose of PCV after 24 months of age.
- **Kindergarten through 12th Grade:** Not required for any child 5 years of age or older.

### Hepatitis B

- **Early Childhood (PE/PK):** 3 doses appropriately spaced. (see doses under minimum interval). Third dose must have been administered on or after 6 months of age.
- **First Entry into School (Kindergarten or 1st Grade):** Kindergarten through 5th grade is not a requirement.
- **First Entry into School (Other Grades):** Students entering 6th thru 12th grade, three doses of hepatitis B vaccine administered at appropriate intervals.
- **Minimum intervals between doses:** Between 1st and 2nd doses must be at least 4 weeks. Between 2nd and 3rd must be at least 8 weeks. Between 1st and 3rd must be at least 16 weeks.
- Proof of prior or current infection, if verified by laboratory evidence, may be substituted.

### Varicella (Chickenpox Vaccine)

- **Early Childhood (PE/PK):** 1 dose on or after 1st birthday.
- **Kindergarten through 12th Grade:** 2 doses for students entering all grades; The 1st dose must have been on or after the 1st birthday and the 2nd dose no less than 4 weeks (28) days later.
- Proof of prior varicella disease shall be verified by a physician or a healthcare provider or laboratory evidence.

### Meningococcal Disease (MCV4), (MenACWY)

MenACWY vaccines may be administered at same time with Men B vaccines, but at a different anatomic site.

- **First Entry into School (Other Grades):**
  - **Applies to students entering 6th - 11th grades:** 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine.
  - **12th grade entry:** 2 doses of meningococcal conjugate vaccine.
- **Minimum intervals for administration:**
  - **For 6th grade entry:** the first dose received on or after the 11th birthday.
  - If earlier vaccination (between ages 10 and 11) then follow [Illinois Department of Public Health protocols](#).
  - **For 12th grade entry:** 2nd dose on or after the 16th birthday and an interval of at least 8 weeks after the first dose.
  - Only 1 dose is required if the 1st dose was received at 16 years of age or older.