

Required Immunizations

Required immunizations are defined as those specified by law. However, most health departments and physicians would recommend more than the required doses.

Child Care Attendance

Children attending child care must be immunized age-appropriately according to the schedule below:

Age of Child Number of Doses Required>

2-3 months 1 DTP/DtaP/DT, 1 Polio, 1 Hib

4-5 months 2 DTP/DtaP/DT, 2 Polio, 2 Hib

6-11 months 3 DTP/DtaP/DT, 2 Polio, 3 Hib

12-15 months 4 Hib*, and 1 MMR given on or after the first birthday

12-18 months 4 DTP/DtaP/DT, 3 Polio, and 1 Varicella

4-6 years 4 or more DTP/DtaP/DT, 4 Polio, 4 Hib*, 1 Varicella, and 2 MMR given on or after the first birthday

*If child starts Hib at 15 months through 4 years of age, give just one dose of Hib vaccine.

School Attendance (K-12)

DTP/DtaP/DT

4 or more doses, one of which must be given on or after the fourth birthday. If starting series at age seven or older, only three doses are required.

Polio (OPV/IPV)

4 doses of OPV or IPV. If the 3rd dose was given on or after the fourth birthday, the 4th dose is not required. However, if a combination of IPV/OPV (2IPV/2OPV) is used, all 4 doses are needed regardless of age.

MMR

2 doses, given on or after the first birthday required, for entrance into grades K, 4, 8 and 12. The second dose should be administered at least 30 days following the first dose. Beginning with the start of the 2001 school year, all students K-12 must have two doses of MMR.

Hepatitis B

3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine are required for entry into Kindergarten and 2 or 3 doses (depending on the type of vaccine given) for entry into 7th grade.

Varicella

1 dose given on or after the first birthday for entrance into kindergarten; a parent or physician diagnosed history of disease is acceptable in lieu of vaccine for purposes of the requirement.

College

Two doses of MMR are required for full-time students attending college in Tennessee if they were born after 1957. Parents and students should also consider the need for the meningococcal vaccine, particularly if the student will be living in a dormitory.