

**MINIMAL IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN NEW JERSEY  
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4: Immunization of Pupils in School**

DISEASE(S)	MEETS IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS	COMMENTS
DTaP	(AGE 1-6 YEARS): 4 doses, with one dose given on or after the 4th birthday, OR any 5 doses. (AGE 7-9 YEARS): 3 doses of Td or any previously administered combination of DTP, DTaP, and DT to equal 3 doses.	Any child entering pre-school, pre-Kindergarten, or Kindergarten needs a minimum of four doses. Pupils after the seventh birthday should receive adult type Td. DTP/Hib vaccine and DTaP also valid DTP doses. Laboratory evidence of immunity is also acceptable.
Tdap	GRADE 6 (or comparable age level for special education programs): 1 dose	For pupils entering Grade 6 on or after 9-1-08 and born on or after 1-1-97, A child does not need a Tdap dose until FIVE years after the last DTP/DTaP or Td dose.
POLIO	(AGE 1-6 YEARS): 3 doses, with one dose given on or after the 4th birthday, OR any 4 doses. (AGE 7 or OLDER): Any 3 doses.	Either Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) or Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) separately or in combination is acceptable. Polio vaccine is not required of pupils 18 years of age or older. Laboratory evidence of immunity is also acceptable.
MEASLES	If born before 1-1-90, 1 dose of a live Measles-containing vaccine on or after the first birthday. If born on or after 1-1-90, 2 doses of a live Measles-containing vaccine on or after the first birthday. If entering a college or university after 9-1-95 and previously unvaccinated, 2 doses of a live Measles-containing vaccine on or after the first birthday.	Any child over 15 months of age entering child care, pre-school, or pre-Kindergarten needs a minimum of 1 dose of measles vaccine. Any child entering Kindergarten needs 2 doses. Previously unvaccinated students entering college after 9-1-95 need 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine or any combination containing live measles virus administered after 1968. Documentation of 2 prior doses is acceptable. Laboratory evidence of immunity is also acceptable. Intervals between first and second measles/MMR/MR doses cannot be less than 1 month.
RUBELLA and MUMPS	1 dose of live Mumps-containing vaccine on or after the first birthday. 1 dose of live Rubella-containing vaccine on or after the first birthday.	Any child over 15 months of age entering child care, pre-school, or pre-Kindergarten needs 1 dose of rubella and mumps vaccine. Any child entering Kindergarten needs 1 dose each. Each student entering college for the first time after 9-1-95 needs 1 dose of rubella and mumps vaccine or any combination containing live rubella and mumps virus administered after 1968. Laboratory evidence of immunity is also acceptable.
VARICELLA	1 dose on or after the first birthday.	All children 19 months of age and older enrolled into a child care/pre-school center after 9-1-04 or children born on or after 1-1-98 entering a school for the first time in Kindergarten or Grade 1 need 1 dose of varicella vaccine. Laboratory evidence of immunity, physician's statement or a parental statement of previous varicella disease is also acceptable.
HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE B (Hib)	(AGE 2-11 MONTHS) <sup>(1)</sup> : 2 doses (AGE 12-59 MONTHS) <sup>(2)</sup> : 1 dose	Mandated only for children enrolled in child care, pre-school, or pre-Kindergarten. <sup>(1)</sup> Minimum of 2 doses of Hib vaccine is needed if between the ages of 2-11 months. <sup>(2)</sup> Minimum of 1 dose of Hib vaccine is needed after the first birthday. DTP/Hib and Hib/Hep B also valid Hib doses.
HEPATITIS B	(K-GRADE 12): 3 doses or 2 doses <sup>(1)</sup>	<sup>(1)</sup> If a child is between 11-15 years of age and has not received 3 prior doses of Hepatitis B then the child is eligible to receive 2-dose Hepatitis B Adolescent formulation. Laboratory evidence of immunity is also acceptable.
PNEUMO-COCCAL	(AGE 2-11 MONTHS) <sup>(1)</sup> : 2 doses (AGE 12-59 MONTHS) <sup>(2)</sup> : 1 dose	Mandated only for children enrolled in child care, pre-school, or pre-Kindergarten. <sup>(1)</sup> Minimum of 2 doses of Pneumococcal vaccine is needed if between the ages of 2-11 months. <sup>(2)</sup> Minimum of 1 dose of Pneumococcal vaccine is needed after the first birthday.
MENINGO-COCCAL	(Entering GRADE 6 (or comparable age level for Special Ed programs): 1 dose <sup>(1)</sup> (Entering a four-year college or University, previously unvaccinated and residing in a campus dormitory): 1 dose <sup>(2)</sup>	<sup>(1)</sup> For pupils entering Grade 6 on or after 9-1-08 and born on or after 1-1-97. <sup>(2)</sup> Previously unvaccinated students entering a four-year college or university after 9-1-04 and who reside in a campus dormitory, need 1 dose of meningococcal vaccine. Documentation of one prior dose is acceptable.
INFLUENZA	(AGES 6-59 MONTHS): 1 dose ANNUALLY	For children enrolled in child care, pre-school or pre-Kindergarten on or after 9-1-08. 1 dose to be given between September 1 and December 31 of each year.

**AGE APPROPRIATE VACCINATIONS (FOR LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS/PRE-SCHOOLS)**

CHILD'S AGE	NUMBER OF DOSES CHILD SHOULD HAVE (BY AGE):
2-3 Months	1 dose DTaP, 1 dose Polio, 1 dose Hib, 1 dose PCV7
4-5 Months	2 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 2 doses Hib, 2 doses PCV7
6-7 Months	3 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 2-3 doses Hib, 2-3 doses PCV7, 1 dose Influenza
8-11 Months	3 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 2-3 doses Hib, 2-3 doses PCV7, 1 dose Influenza
12-14 Months	3 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 1 dose Hib, 2-3 doses PCV7, 1 dose Influenza
15-17 Months	3 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 1 dose MMR, 1 dose Hib, 1 dose PCV7, 1 dose Influenza
18 Months-4 Years	4 doses DTaP, 3 doses Polio, 1 dose MMR, 1 dose Hib, 1 dose Varicella, 1 dose PCV7, 1 dose Influenza

**PROVISIONAL ADMISSION:**

Provisional admission allows a child to enter/attend school but must have a minimum of one dose of each of the required vaccines. Pupils must be actively in the process of completing the series. If a pupil is <5 years of age, they have 17 months to complete the immunization requirements. If a pupil is 5 years of age and older, they have 12 months to complete the immunization requirements.

**GRACE PERIODS:**

- 4-day grace period: All vaccine doses administered less than or equal to four days before either the specified minimum age or dose spacing interval shall be counted as valid and shall not require revaccination in order to enter or remain in a school, pre-school or child care facility.
- 30-day grace period: Those children transferring into a New Jersey school, pre-school, or child care center from out of state/out of country may be allowed a 30-day grace period in order to obtain past immunization documentation before provisional status shall begin.

## HOW THE NEW IMMUNIZATION LAW AFFECTS YOU

### WHO IS COVERED BY THE IMMUNIZATION REGULATIONS?

Children over one year of age now attending school, as well as those about to enroll in any public or private school in New Jersey are covered by these regulations. The definition of "school" includes child care centers, nursery schools and kindergartens as well as elementary, intermediate and high schools.

### WHAT DO THE REGULATIONS REQUIRE?

The regulations require the parent or guardian of every pupil to submit acceptable evidence to school authorities indicating that the required immunization shots have been received. "Acceptable evidence" generally means any immunization record from a physician, public health department or school provided the record includes the date when each immunization was given.

- Question:** My child's pediatrician advised us against completing the DTP series due to her history of convulsions. Will she be forced to receive them now?
- Answer:** No! The regulations exempt children who have a bona fide medical reason for avoiding certain vaccines. You will be required, however, to obtain a medical contradiction form from your doctor stating which immunization(s) should not be given as well as the doctor's reasons and the period of time this exemption shall remain in effect.
- Question:** My son and I are members of a religious organization whose basic tenants oppose the practice of immunizations/TB testing. Will he be kept out of school for failing to comply with these required shots?
- Answer:** No! If you sign and submit a written statement requesting an exemption on the grounds that receiving any immunizations will interfere with the free exercise of your child's religious rights, you will exempt him from all immunization/TB requirements. This exemption, however, may be suspended during an emergency as determined by the State Commissioner of Health. (Forms to be used in requesting exemptions are available from local schools and health departments.)
- Question:** My child has started his immunizations but will not be able to complete all of them by the time school begins. Will my child be permitted to attend school?
- Answer:** Yes! If a physician or health department indicates that your child has begun the required immunization and is in the process of complying with all immunization requirements, your child can be admitted to school on a provisional or temporary basis. Provisional admittance forms can be obtained from school and local health departments and must be signed by both the parent and the physician. The provisional admission can be extended up to one year, but most children will be expected to have completed all the requirements within 90 days.

### COUNTRIES WITH AN INCIDENCE OF TB INSUFFICIENT TO REQUIRE MANTOUX TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTING AS A REQUIREMENT FOR SCHOOL ENTRY IN NEW JERSEY

Antigua and Barbuda  
Australia  
Austria  
Barbados  
Belgium  
Bermuda  
Canada  
Cayman Islands  
Cuba  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Finland  
France  
Germany  
Greenland  
Grenada  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Israel  
Italy  
Jamaica

Jordan  
Lebanon  
Luxembourg  
Malta  
Monaco  
Montserrat  
Netherlands  
Netherlands Antilles  
New Zealand  
Norway  
Oman  
Puerto Rico  
Saint Kitts and Nevis  
San Marino  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Trinidad and Tobago  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
United States of America  
United States of Virgin Islands

Students entering a U.S. school for the first time in New Jersey or transferring into a New Jersey school from ANY country NOT listed above must be Mantoux tuberculin skin tested unless they meet an exemption criterion.