

# Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements 2025–2026<sup>§</sup>

Massachusetts school immunization requirements are created under the authority of [105 CMR 220.000: Immunization of Students Before Admission to School](#).

**Requirements apply to all students, including individuals from other countries attending or visiting classes or educational programs as part of an academic visitation or exchange program. Requirements apply to all students in every grade, even if they are over 18 years of age. Doses that satisfy ACIP recommendations [as adopted by the CDC on October 24, 2024](#) also satisfy school requirements.**

## Childcare/Preschool<sup>¶†</sup>

Attendees <2 years should be immunized for their age according to the [2025 ACIP Recommended Immunization Schedule](#). Requirements listed in the table below apply to all attendees ≥2 years. These requirements also apply to children in preschool classes called K0 or K1.

Hib	<b>1–4 doses;</b> number of doses is determined by vaccine product and age the series begins
DTaP	<b>4 doses</b>
Polio	<b>3 doses</b>
Hepatitis B	<b>3 doses;</b> laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
MMR	<b>1 dose;</b> must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	<b>1 dose;</b> must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

## Grades Kindergarten–6<sup>¶†</sup>

In ungraded classrooms, Kindergarten requirements apply to all students ≥5 years.

DTaP/Tdap	<b>5 doses;</b> 4 doses are acceptable if the fourth dose is given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday; DT is only acceptable with a letter stating a medical contraindication to DTaP
Polio	<b>4 doses;</b> fourth dose must be given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥6 months after the previous dose or a fifth dose is required; 3 doses are acceptable if the third dose is given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥6 months after the previous dose
Hepatitis B	<b>3 doses;</b> laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
MMR	<b>2 doses;</b> first dose must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday, and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	<b>2 doses;</b> first dose must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

<sup>§</sup> Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel. School requirements are enforced at the local level.

<sup>¶</sup> Meningococcal vaccine requirements (see Grades 7–10 and 11–12) also apply to residential students in Grades Preschool through 8 if the school combines these grades in the same school as students in Grades 9–12.

<sup>†</sup> Medical exemptions (statement from a physician stating that a vaccine is medically contraindicated for a student) must be renewed annually at the start of the school year, and religious exemptions (statement from a student or parent/guardian, if the student is <18 years of age, stating that a vaccine is against sincerely held religious beliefs), should be renewed annually at the start of the school year.

\* A reliable history of chickenpox includes a diagnosis of chickenpox or interpretation of parent/guardian description of chickenpox by a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or designee.

See the following pages for Grades 7–10, Grades 11–12, and College (Postsecondary Institutions)

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Requirements apply to all students, including individuals from other countries attending or visiting classes or educational programs as part of an academic visitation or exchange program. Requirements apply to all students in every grade, even if they are over 18 years of age. Doses that satisfy ACIP recommendations [as adopted by the CDC on October 24, 2024](#) also satisfy school requirements.

## Grades 7–12<sup>†</sup>

In ungraded classrooms, Grade 7 requirements apply to all students ≥12 years.

Tdap	<b>1 dose;</b> and history of DTaP primary series or age-appropriate catch-up vaccination; Tdap given at ≥7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11–12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule; Td or Tdap should be given if it has been ≥10 years since last Tdap
Polio	<b>4 doses;</b> fourth dose must be given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥6 months after the previous dose or a fifth dose is required; 3 doses are acceptable if the third dose is given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥6 months after the previous dose
Hepatitis B	<b>3 doses;</b> laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable; 2 doses of Heplisav-B given on or after 18 years of age are acceptable
MMR	<b>2 doses;</b> first dose must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday, and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	<b>2 doses;</b> first dose must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Meningococcal <b>Grade 7–10</b>	<b>1 dose;</b> this dose must be given on or after the 10 <sup>th</sup> birthday. Meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MenACWY (formerly MCV4) and MenABCWY, fulfill this requirement; monovalent meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement
Meningococcal <b>Grade 11–12<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>2 doses;</b> second dose MenACWY (formerly MCV4) must be given on or after the 16 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥ 8 weeks after the previous dose; 1 dose is acceptable if it was given on or after the 16 <sup>th</sup> birthday. Meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MenACWY (MCV4) and MenABCWY, fulfill this requirement; monovalent meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement

<sup>§</sup> Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel. School requirements are enforced at the local level.

<sup>†</sup> Medical exemptions (statement from a physician stating that a vaccine is medically contraindicated for a student) must be renewed annually at the start of the school year, and religious exemptions (statement from a student or parent/guardian, if the student is <18 years of age, stating that a vaccine is against sincerely held religious beliefs), should be renewed annually at the start of the school year.

\* A reliable history of chickenpox includes a diagnosis of chickenpox or interpretation of parent/guardian description of chickenpox by a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or designee.

<sup>‡</sup> Students who are 15 years old in Grade 11 are in compliance until they turn 16 years old.

See the following page for College (Postsecondary Institutions)

### Campers, staff, and volunteers 18 years of age and older

MMR	<b>2 doses;</b> anyone born in or after 1957; <b>1 dose;</b> anyone born before 1957 outside the US; anyone born in the US before 1957 is considered immune; laboratory evidence of immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella is acceptable
Varicella	<b>2 doses;</b> anyone born in or after 1980 in the US, and anyone born outside the US; anyone born before 1980 in the US is considered immune; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable
Tdap	<b>1 dose;</b> and history of DTaP primary series or age-appropriate catch-up vaccination; Tdap given at $\geq 7$ years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule; Td or Tdap should be given if it has been $\geq 10$ years since Tdap
Hepatitis B	<b>3 doses;</b> (or 2 doses of Heplisav-B) for staff whose responsibilities include first aid; laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable

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