

Nebraska School Immunization Laws FAQ

WHERE ARE THE REGULATIONS ON IMMUNIZATIONS FOUND?



Title 173 (nebraska.gov)
dhhs.ne.gov/immunizations



WHAT IMMUNIZATIONS ARE REQUIRED?

Each student must be protected by immunizations against the following diseases, unless otherwise exempted from this requirement under the provisions of 173 NAC 3-010:

- ▶ Measles, Mumps, Rubella
- ▶ Polio
- ▶ Diphtheria
- ▶ Hemophilus Influenzae type b (Hib)
- ▶ Invasive pneumococcal disease
- ▶ Hepatitis B
- ▶ Tetanus
- ▶ Varicella
- ▶ Pertussis

STUDENT AGE GROUP	REQUIRED VACCINE
<p>Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school-based program not licensed as a child care provider</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 doses of DTaP, DTP or DT vaccine • 3 doses of Polio vaccine • 3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 doses of Hib given at or after 15 months of age • 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine • 1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age • 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. (Written documentation, including year, of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted). • 4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age.
<p>Students entering school (Kindergarten or 1st great depending on the school district's entering grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 doses of DTaP, DTP, or TD vaccine, 1 dose on or after the 4th birthday • 3 dose of Polio vaccine • 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine (or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years) • 2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least 1 month • 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. (Written documentation, including year, of varicella disease from parent, guardian or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had varicella disease, they do not need the vaccination.)
<p>Students entering 7th grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be current with above vaccinations AND receive 1 dose of Tdap (contain Pertussis booster)
<p>Students transferring from outside the state at any grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be immunized appropriately according to grade entered

WHO NEEDS IMMUNIZATIONS?

Each student must be protected against the diseases previously listed and submit immunization records. Any student who does not comply with these requirements must not be permitted to enroll in school, unless they have an exemption or are provisionally enrolled.

WHAT KIND OF IMMUNIZATION EXEMPTIONS ARE ALLOWED IN NEBRASKA?

Nebraska only allows medical and religious exemptions. Personal belief exemptions are not allowed. Students with exemptions on file may need to be excluded from school if there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease.

According to regulations (NAC 173 3-010), immunization is not required for a student's enrollment in any school in this state if he or she submits either of the following:

MEDICAL EXEMPTION: A statement signed by a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner stating that, in the health care provider's opinion, the specified immunization(s) required would be injurious to the health and well-being of the student or any member of the student's family or household; or

RELIGIOUS AFFIDAVIT: An affidavit signed by the student or, if he or she is a minor, by a legally authorized representative of the student, stating that the immunization conflicts with the tenets and practice of a recognized religious denomination of which the student is an adherent or member or that immunization conflicts with the personally and sincerely followed religious beliefs of the student.

NOTE: Religious affidavits are required to be notarized.

WHAT IF A STUDENT HAS ALL OF THE REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS, BUT NOT ALL OF THE REQUIRED DOSES?

The student may attend school due to something called **provisional enrollment**. A student may be provisionally enrolled in a school in Nebraska if he or she has:

- begun the immunizations against the specified diseases prior to enrollment AND
- continues the necessary immunizations as rapidly as is medically feasible.

Essentially, the student needs at least one of every required immunization, and they need to have a plan to complete the requirements as soon as possible, or at least by the end of the school year (9 months).

WHAT IF A STUDENT IS UP TO DATE ON IMMUNIZATIONS, EXCEPT FOR ONE THAT THE PARENT DOES NOT INTEND TO GET?

This would require documentation of a medical or religious exemption.

IF A STUDENT HAS A VACCINE EXEMPTION ON FILE, DO I NEED AN UPDATED ONE EVERY YEAR?

Nebraska does not require students to have vaccine exemptions updated yearly; however, districts may have policies on this.

IF A STUDENT HAS A MEDICAL VACCINE EXEMPTION ON FILE FROM A DOCTOR IN IOWA, CAN THIS BE USED IN MY (NEBRASKA) SCHOOL?

Yes, the medical exemption can be from an out-of-state physician.



Did You Know Your Child Can Get Free Vaccines?

Vaccines for Children Can Help

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program provides free vaccines to children who qualify. About half of American children less than 19 years old receive VFC vaccine.

Is my child eligible for the VFC Program?

Children are eligible if it is before their 19th birthday and they:

- Qualify for Medicaid
- Don't have insurance
- Are American Indian or Alaska Native

Children whose insurance doesn't cover some or all routinely recommended vaccines (underinsured) can still get vaccines through VFC if they go to a Federally Qualified Health Center or Rural Health Clinic.

Where can I go to get my child vaccinated?

- Ask if your child's doctor or nurse is a VFC provider. Nationally, there are thousands of health care providers enrolled in the VFC program.
- If your child does not have a doctor, ask if your local public health department provides vaccines.
- Visit a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Clinic (RHC).

How much will I have to pay?

- All routinely recommended vaccines are free through the VFC Program.
- Doctors can charge fees to give each shot. However, they cannot refuse to vaccinate your child if you are unable to pay these fees.
- The doctor can charge additional fees for the office visit or non-vaccine services such as an eye exam or blood test.

Where can I get more information?

- Ask your child's doctor's office if they participate in VFC.
- If you don't have a regular doctor's office:
 - See if your state has a searchable website for VFC providers.
 - Call your [state or local health department](#).
 - Visit findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov to find a Federally Qualified Health Center.



Learn more at [CDC.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/parents/](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/parents/)



¿Sabía que a su hijo lo pueden vacunar de manera gratuita?

El Programa Vacunas para Niños puede ayudar

El Programa Vacunas para Niños (VFC, por sus siglas en inglés) proporciona vacunas gratuitas a los niños que reúnan los requisitos. En los Estados Unidos, aproximadamente la mitad de los niños menores de 19 años de edad reciben vacunas del VFC.

¿Reúne mi hijo los requisitos para el Programa VFC?

Los niños reúnen los requisitos si no han cumplido los 19 años y en los siguientes casos:

- Son elegibles para Medicaid
- No tienen seguro
- Son indoamericanos o nativos de Alaska

Los niños cuyo seguro no cubra algunas o todas las vacunas que se recomiendan de manera rutinaria (con poca cobertura de seguro) aún pueden recibir vacunas a través del programa VFC si van a un Centro de Salud Federalmente Calificado o Centro Médico Rural.

¿A dónde puedo llevar a vacunar a mi hijo?

- Pregunte si el médico o enfermero de su hijo es un proveedor del VFC. A nivel nacional, miles de consultorios de proveedores están inscritos en el Programa VFC.
- Si su hijo no tiene un médico, pregunte si el departamento de salud pública local provee vacunas.
- Visite un Centro de Salud Federalmente Calificado (FQHC, por sus siglas en inglés) o Centro Médico Rural (RHC, por sus siglas en inglés).

¿Cuánto tendré que pagar?

- A través del Programa VFC, todas las vacunas recomendadas de manera rutinaria son gratuitas.
- El médico puede cobrar por la aplicación de cada dosis. Sin embargo, no puede negarse a vacunar a su hijo si usted no puede pagar el cargo.
- El médico puede cobrar cargos adicionales por la visita al consultorio o los servicios que no sean de vacunación, como un examen de los ojos o análisis de sangre.

¿Dónde puedo obtener más información?

- Pregunte si el consultorio médico de su hijo participa en el VFC.
- Si no tiene un consultorio médico habitual:
 - Vea si su estado tiene un sitio web donde pueda buscar proveedores del VFC.
 - Llame al [departamento de salud local o estatal](#).
 - Consulte findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov para encontrar un Centro de Salud Federalmente Calificado.

