



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 Executive Office of Health and Human Services
 Department of Public Health
 Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences
 305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

CHARLES D. BAKER
 Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
 Lieutenant Governor

Immunization Division

Tel: (617) 983-6800

Fax: (617) 983-6840

www.mass.gov/dph/imm

MARYLOU SUDDERS
 Secretary

MONICA BHAREL, MD, MPH
 Commissioner

Tel: 617-624-6000
www.mass.gov/dph

To: Camp Directors
From: Pejman Talebian, MA, MPH, Director, Immunization Division
Date: March 2021
Subject: Required Immunizations for Children Attending Camp and Camp Staff

Vaccination is critically important to control the spread of vaccine-preventable disease. In 2017, a single case of mumps at a summer camp in Massachusetts resulted in isolation of ill individuals, vaccination of those without evidence of two doses of MMR vaccine at several camps, and quarantine of those who did not have evidence of immunity to mumps and who could not get vaccinated. International staff and campers with missing or incomplete vaccination records made rapid implementation of disease control measures very challenging.

Required Vaccines:

Minimum Standards for Recreational Camps for Children, 105 CMR 430.152, has been updated. Immunization requirements for children attending camp follow the Massachusetts school immunization requirements, as outlined in the [Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements](#) table, which reflects the newest requirement: meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY) for students entering grades 7 and 11 (on or after the 16th birthday, in the latter case; see the tables that follow for further details). Children should meet the immunization requirements for the grade they will enter in the school year following their camp session. Children attending camp who are not yet school aged should follow the Childcare/Preschool immunization requirements included on the School Immunization Requirements table.

Campers, staff and volunteers who are 18 years of age and older should follow the immunizations outlined in the document, [Adult Occupational Immunizations](#).

The following page includes portions of the Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements table and Adult Occupational Immunizations table relevant for camps.

If you have any questions about vaccines, immunization recommendations, or suspect or confirmed cases of disease, please contact the MDPH Immunization Program at 888-658-2850 or 617-983-6800. Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel; enforcement of requirements is at the local level.

Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements for 2021-2022

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

Requirements apply to all students including individuals from another country attending or visiting classes or educational programs as part of an academic visitation or exchange program. Requirements apply to all students, even if over 18 years of age.

Childcare/Preschool^{††}

Attendees <2 years should be immunized for their age according to the [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	1-4 doses ; the number of doses is determined by vaccine product and age the series begins
DTaP	4 doses
Polio	3 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses ; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
MMR	1 dose ; must be given on or after the 1 st birthday; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	1 dose ; must be given on or after the 1 st birthday; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

Grades Kindergarten – 6^{††}

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

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

§ Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel.

†† Meningococcal vaccine requirements (see Grades 7-10 and 11-12) also apply to residential students in Grades Pre-K through 8 if the school combines these grades in the same school as students in Grades 9-12.

†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 following pages for Grades 7-10, Grades 11-12, and College (Postsecondary Institutions)

MDPH Immunization Division 2021-2022 School Year version effective May 26, 2021

Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements for 2021-2022

Requirements apply to all students including individuals from another country attending or visiting classes or educational programs as part of an academic visitation or exchange program. Requirements apply to all students, even if over 18 years of age.

Grades 7 – 12†

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

Tdap	1 dose; 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	4 doses; fourth dose must be given on or after the 4 th 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 th birthday and ≥ 6 months after the previous dose
Hepatitis B	3 doses; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable. 2 doses of Heplisav-B given on or after 18 years of age are acceptable
MMR	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and second dose must be given ≥ 28 days after first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and second dose must be given ≥ 28 days after first dose; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

Meningococcal Requirements

Grade 7-8	1 dose; 1 dose MenACWY (formerly MCV4) required. Meningococcal B vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement.
Grade 11-12‡	2 doses; second dose MenACWY (formerly MCV4) must be given on or after the 16 th birthday and ≥ 8 weeks after the previous dose. 1 dose is acceptable if it was given on or after the 16 th birthday. Meningococcal B vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement.

Meningococcal Vaccine Phase-In Schedule

	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
1 Dose MenACWY	Grades 7-8	Grades 7-9	Grades 7-10
2 Doses MenACWY	Grades 11-12	Grades 11-12	Grades 11-12

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

†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.

‡ Students who are 15 years old in grade 11 are in compliance until they turn 16 years old.

See following pages for College (Postsecondary Institutions)

Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements for 2021-2022

Requirements apply to all students including individuals from another country attending or visiting classes or educational programs as part of an academic visitation or exchange program. Requirements apply to all students, even if over 18 years of age.

College (Postsecondary Institutions)**†

Requirements apply to all full-time undergraduate and graduate students under 30 years of age and all full- and part-time health science students. Meningococcal requirements apply to the group specified in the table below.

Tdap	1 dose ; and history of a 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 Tdap.
Hepatitis B	3 doses ; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable; 2 doses of Heplisav-B given on or after 18 years of age are acceptable
MMR	2 doses ; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and second dose must be given ≥ 28 days after first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable. Birth in the U.S. before 1957 acceptable only for non-health science students
Varicella	2 doses ; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and second dose must be given ≥ 28 days after first dose; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable. Birth in the U.S. before 1980 acceptable only for non-health science students
Meningococcal	1 dose ; 1 dose MenACWY (formerly MCV4) required for all full-time students 21 years of age or younger. The dose of MenACWY vaccine must have been received on or after the student's 16 th birthday. Doses received at younger ages do not count towards this requirement. Students may decline MenACWY vaccine after they have read and signed the MDPH Meningococcal Information and Waiver Form provided by their institution. Meningococcal B vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement

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

** The immunization requirements apply to all students who attend any classes or activities on campus, even once. If all instruction and activities are remote and the student will never be on campus in person, the requirements would not apply. Should a student physically return to campus, they would need comply with this requirement

†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.