

Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements 2019–2020[§]

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

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^{¶†}

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

DTaP	5 doses ; 4 doses are acceptable if the 4 th 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 ; 4 th dose must be given on or after the 4 th birthday and ≥ 6 months after the previous dose, or a 5 th dose is required. 3 doses are acceptable if the 3 rd 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 the 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after dose 1; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	2 doses ; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after dose 1; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

[§] Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel. Enforcement of school requirements is at the local level.

^{¶†} Meningococcal vaccine requirements (see Grades 7–12 table) also apply to residential students in grade pre–K through 8, but only if the school combines these grades in the same school with students in the grades 9–12.

*Medical exemptions (statement from a physician stating that a vaccine is medically contraindicated for a student) 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 page 2 for Grades 7–12 and College (Postsecondary Institutions)

Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements 2019–2020[§]

Grades 7 – 12[†]

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. In ungraded classrooms, grade 7 requirements apply to all students ≥ 12 years. Requirements apply to all students, even if over 18 years of age.

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 should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since Tdap.
Polio	4 doses; 4 th dose must be given on or after the 4 th birthday and dose is required. 3 doses are acceptable if the 3 rd 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 the 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after dose 1; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after dose 1; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Meningococcal	1 dose; 1 dose MenACWY (formerly MCV4) required for newly enrolled full-time students attending a secondary school with grades 9-12 (in ungraded classrooms, those with students ≥ 13 years) who live in a congregate living arrangement approved by the secondary school (e.g., dormitory). 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.

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. This includes full- or part-time students attending any postsecondary institution while on a student or other visa, including foreign exchange students attending or visiting classes as part of an academic visitation or exchange program. 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 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 the 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after dose 1; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable. Birth in the U.S. before 1957 is acceptable only for non-health science students.
Varicella	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after dose 1; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable. Birth in the U.S. before 1980 is 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. Enforcement of school requirements is at the local level.

[†] Medical exemptions (statement from a physician stating that a vaccine is medically contraindicated for a student) 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.