

# Health & Immunization Information

Children enrolled in Texas Schools are required to have proof of up-to-date immunizations for Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Hepatitis B and Varicella. In addition, for pre-K students and early childhood students, the State requires H flu B (HIB), Hepatitis A, and pneumococcal vaccines. Students enrolling from a foreign country must also have a current tuberculosis test. The following is a copy of the minimum requirements of the State of Texas. The Health Department and your school nurse can help determine if your child is fully immunized or will need additional vaccines.

## Texas Administrative Code Immunization Requirements

Every child in the state shall be immunized against vaccine preventable diseases caused by infectious agents in accordance with the following requirements:

Admission to a school is not allowed until records are produced showing (1) that the child has been immunized in accordance with the rules; (2) the child has an exemption from immunization requirements on file with the school in accordance with the rules; or (3) that the child is entitled to provisional enrollment. Provisional enrollment is a component of the rules adopted by the TDH for the minimum immunization requirements for school entry. Provisional enrollment allows a student meeting certain specific criteria to be admitted on a temporary basis for up to 30 days. Provisional enrollment allows a student to enroll in school under the following situations:

- **Transfer Students** – Students transferring from one Texas public or private school to another.
- **Homeless Students** – Students who are defined as homeless according to the federal McKinney-Vento Act, 42 U.S.C. §11434a.
- **Students In-Progress** – Students who have received at least one dose of each specified age-appropriate vaccine required by the TDH rules. To remain enrolled, students must complete the required subsequent doses of each vaccine series on schedule and as rapidly as medically feasible and provide acceptable evidence of vaccination to the school. A school nurse or school administrator shall review the immunization status of a provisionally enrolled student every 30 days to ensure continued compliance in completing the required doses of vaccination. If, at the end of the 30-day period, a student has not received a subsequent dose of vaccine, the student is not in compliance and the school shall exclude the student from school attendance until the required dose(s) is (are) administered.

**(A) Children enrolled in child-care facilities, pre-kindergarten, or early childhood programs shall have the following.**

(i) Age-appropriate vaccination against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, Haemophilus influenzae type b, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, varicella, hepatitis A and pneumococcal disease.

**(B) Students in kindergarten through twelfth grade shall have the following vaccines.**

**(i) Poliomyelitis.**

(I) Upon entry into kindergarten, students are required to have four doses of polio vaccine one of which must have been received on or after the fourth birthday. Or, if the third dose was administered on or after the fourth birthday only three doses are required. If any combination of four doses of OPV and IPV was received before four years of age no additional dose is required.

(II) Polio vaccine is not required for persons eighteen years of age or older.

**(ii) Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis.**

(I) Upon entry into kindergarten, students are required to have five doses of a diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis containing vaccine in any combination unless the fourth dose was received on or after the fourth birthday in which case only four doses are required.

(II) Students who started their vaccinations after age seven are required to have at least three doses of a tetanus-diphtheria containing vaccine. Any combination of three doses of a tetanus-diphtheria containing vaccine will meet this requirement. One dose of a tetanus-diphtheria containing vaccine is required within the last ten years.

**(iii) Measles.** Two doses of measles-containing vaccine are required. The first dose shall be administered on or after the first birthday.

**(iv) Rubella.** One dose of rubella vaccine received on or after the first birthday is required.

**(v) Mumps.** One dose of mumps vaccine received on or after the first birthday is required.

**(vi) Hepatitis B.**

(I) Three doses of hepatitis B vaccine are required for the following grades for the following school years:  
Beginning in school year 2006-2007, all students in grades K-12.

**(vii) Varicella.** One dose of varicella vaccine received on or after the first birthday is required for the following grades for the following school years:

(I) Beginning in school year 2006-2007, all students in grades kindergarten through twelfth grade. Two doses are required if the child was thirteen years old or older at the time the first dose of varicella vaccine was received.

**(viii) Hepatitis A.** Not presently required in Denton County.

***Tuberculosis Skin Testing is required for all students who are enrolling in the LISD from a foreign country.***

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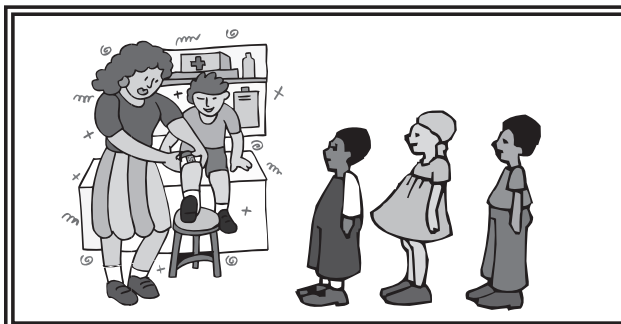
In 2001, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 1688 which permitted students to carry and self-administer their own medications for the treatment of asthma while at school or at school functions. If you want your student to carry and self-administer his or her own asthma medication at school and at school functions, please contact your school nurse as soon as possible.

## Exemptions to Immunization Requirements

Chapter §97.62 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) describes the conditions under which individuals can seek exemptions from Texas immunization requirements. Exclusions from compliance are allowable on an individual basis for medical contraindications, reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, and active duty with the armed forces of the United States.

### Guidelines for Requesting an Exemption for Reasons of Conscience

- Written requests must be submitted through the U.S. Postal Service, commercial carrier, fax, or by hand-delivery to:  
**TDH Bureau of Immunization and Pharmacy Support**  
1100 West 49th Street  
Austin, Texas 78756  
Fax: 512-458-7544
- Hand-delivered requests may be submitted to the TDH, Bureau of Immunization and Pharmacy Support, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. ALL affidavit forms will be mailed to you via U.S. Postal Service. No requests will be filled at the time of hand-delivery.
- Affidavit form requests will be processed and mailed within one week from the receipt of the request. If additional information is needed in order to process the affidavit, you will be notified.
- The letter must include the following information:
  - Full name of each child for whom a form is requested (first, middle, and last);
  - Date of birth of each child for whom a form is requested;
  - Parent or legal guardian's complete return mailing address, including zip code; and
  - Number of forms needed for each child (not to exceed five forms per child)
- Electronic mail or telephone requests cannot be processed.
- The official Texas Department of Health affidavit form must be notarized and submitted to school officials. The form must be submitted within 90 days from the date it is notarized.
- The school will accept only official affidavit forms developed and issued by the Texas Department of Health (TDH), Immunization Division. This form will be valid for 2 years then must be renewed.  
**No other forms or reproductions will be allowed.**



### Questions?

Contact your campus nurse or  
LISD's Health Services Office:  
Stephanie Gage, Director  
Phone: 972-353-4962  
NEW phone: 469-713-5206