



Dear Parents:

The State of Georgia and Georgia Department of Human Resources requires that all students entering Pre-K, Kindergarten, 6th and 7th, and new entrants* to Georgia schools must have the following immunizations listed below. **Any student that does not have a complete and current immunization form will not be able to start the 2014-15 school year. PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR PHYSICIAN TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT FOR YOUR CHILD'S STATE REQUIRED VACCINATIONS AND TO REQUEST A CURRENT 3231 FORM.**

A summary of school immunization requirements is listed below:

Students *entering* Pre-K, Kindergarten and 6th and 7th grade, and new entrants to Georgia schools:

- Second dose of mumps vaccine or serological proof of immunity (MMR, MMRV).
- Second dose of varicella (chicken pox) vaccine, serological proof of immunity, or healthcare provider documentation of disease history.
- Children under 5 years old: must be age-appropriately immunized against pneumococcal disease.
- 2 doses of Hepatitis A should be administered to all children born on or after January 1, 2006.
- Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) and meningococcal conjugate vaccines must be administered before entering school for all children born on or after January 1, 2002 who are entering 7th grade, and new entrants* to Georgia schools in grades 8-12.
- You may bring or fax the new form to LCA:
Fax # (678) 735-3440 Attention: Suzanne Perry office number- (770) 554-9888 (ext. 3106)

If your child's grade is not mentioned above, we recommend you ask for an updated 3231 with current immunizations on it during your child's next visit. **The State of Georgia and Georgia Department of Human Resources requires that all students have a copy of the 3231 form on file at school.**

If you have any further questions, please contact your private physician or health department.

Stephanie Bruno, RN

Georgia Department of Public Health
Two Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, 30303
Phone: (404) 657-3158
Fax: (404) 657-2715

*New entrants include anyone that is entering Georgia schools for the first time or is returning to a Georgia school after being gone for more than 12 months or one school year.



Brenda Fitzgerald, MD, Commissioner | Nathan Deal, Governor

2 Peachtree Street NW, 15th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142
www.health.state.ga.us

January 15, 2014

Dear Healthcare Provider:

Georgia's immunization requirements for children attending 7th grade have been revised to align with the current recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, 7th graders will be required to have Tdap and Meningococcal conjugate vaccines prior to entering school.

The addition of these new school requirements will lead to an increase in immunization coverage levels in Georgia and reduce disease not only in Georgia children enrolled in school but also in family members and others in the community. Data from the National Immunization Survey (NIS) ranked Georgia 39th in Tdap rates and 22nd in meningococcal rates. Implementation of these new requirements will increase vaccine coverage rates and ensure protection against vaccine preventable diseases. We are optimistic that this reduction in disease rates will concomitantly reduce school absentee rates and thereby also improve students' performance.

Effective July 1, 2014 children born on or after January 1, 2002 who are attending 7th grade and for new entrants into a Georgia school grades 8th through 12th must have received one dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine and one dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine.

"New Entrant" means any child entering any school in Georgia for the first time or entering after having been absent from a Georgia school for more than twelve months or one school year.

As you see adolescents in your practice, please take advantage of these encounters and make strong recommendations to parents to also have their children immunized with HPV vaccine in order to protect them against most of the cancers caused by human papillomavirus. HPV vaccine can be given at the same time as other vaccines.



We Protect Lives.

The Georgia Department of Public Health Certificate of Immunization Form 3231 is currently being revised to reflect the new seventh grade requirements. Providers using their Electronic Medical Record Systems to produce Form 3231 will receive additional guidance from the Immunization Program regarding updating your system.

Information pertaining to the revised immunization requirements may be viewed on the website <http://dph.georgia.gov/immunization-section>. If you have any questions, please contact the Georgia Immunization Program at 404-657-3158.

Sincerely,



Brenda Fitzgerald, MD
Commissioner

BF: sm

cc: Pat O'Neal, MD
Steven Mitchell