

New Immunizations Required

New immunizations are required for Texas school entry this year.

Kindergartners entering Texas public schools must have had a Hepatitis A shot, two doses of varicella (unless they've already had the chicken pox) and two doses of the vaccine that guards against measles, mumps and rubella.

Seventh-graders must have had a meningitis vaccine and a second dose of varicella (chicken pox survivors excluded).

Depending on their records, students in grade 7 or higher must show proof of receiving Tdap booster guarding against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis—also known as whooping cough.

Texas Vaccines for Children is a program offering free or low-cost immunizations for uninsured or Medicaid-eligible children and for families that cannot afford insurance deductibles or co-payments. For more information, visit immunizetexas.org. (Texas Department of State Health Services)