

# Georgia Immunization Requirements for School and Childcare Attendance

Healthcare Professionals/State Immunization Program Staff/On-Demand

# Objectives

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At the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Recall the role vaccines have played in preventing diseases
- Discuss the importance of vaccines for children and adolescents
- Discuss GA Immunization law and DPH rules and regulations for schools and childcare attendance
- Review process for maintaining immunization certificates
- Review the assessment process
- List at least two reliable sources for immunization information

# Vaccines Work!

DISEASE	PRE-VACCINE ERA ESTIMATED ANNUAL MORBIDITY <sup>1</sup>	MOST RECENT REPORTS OR ESTIMATES OF U.S. CASES	PERCENT DECREASE
Diphtheria	21,053	2 <sup>2</sup>	>99%
<i>H. influenzae</i> serotype B (invasive, <5 years of age)	20,000	18 <sup>2</sup>	>99%
Hepatitis A	117,333	(est) 37,700 <sup>3</sup>	68%
Hepatitis B (acute)	66,232	(est) 20,700 <sup>3</sup>	69%
Measles	530,217	1,275 <sup>2</sup>	>99%
Meningococcal disease (all serotypes)	2,886 <sup>4</sup>	371 <sup>2</sup>	87%
Mumps	162,344	3,780 <sup>2</sup>	98%
Pertussis	200,752	18,617 <sup>2</sup>	91%
Pneumococcal disease (invasive, <5 years of age)	16,069	1,700 <sup>5</sup>	89%
Polio (paralytic)	16,316	0 <sup>2</sup>	100%
Rotavirus (hospitalizations, <3 years of age)	62,500 <sup>6</sup>	30,625 <sup>7</sup>	51%
Rubella	47,745	6 <sup>2</sup>	>99%
Congenital Rubella Syndrome	152	1 <sup>2</sup>	>99%
Smallpox	29,005	0 <sup>2</sup>	100%
Tetanus	580	26 <sup>2</sup>	96%
Varicella	4,085,120	8,297 <sup>8</sup>	>99%

<https://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4037.pdf>

# Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices

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- 15 voting members with expertise in one or more of the following areas:
  - Vaccinology
  - Immunology
  - Infectious diseases
  - Pediatrics
  - Internal Medicine
  - Preventive Medicine
  - Public Health
  - Consumer perspectives and/or social and community aspects of immunization programs
- ACIP develops recommendations and schedules for the use of licensed vaccines

<b>VPD</b>	<b>Vaccination Rate Needed for Community Immunity</b>
<b>Measles</b>	<b>92-94%</b>
<b>Pertussis</b>	<b>92-94%</b>
<b>Diphtheria</b>	<b>83-85%</b>
<b>Rubella</b>	<b>83-85%</b>
<b>Mumps</b>	<b>75-86%</b>
<b>Influenza</b>	<b>30-75%</b>

# Vaccine Preventable Diseases

# Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis Vaccines (DTaP & Tdap)

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## Routine vaccination

- DTaP: 5 dose series administered at 2, 4, 6, 15-18 months and 4-6 years
- Tdap: 1 dose administered at 11-12 years of age; administer 1 dose to pregnant adolescent (preferably during the early part of gestational weeks 27-36)

## Catch-up vaccination

- A 5<sup>th</sup> dose of DTaP is not necessary if dose 4 was administered at age 4 years or older **and at least 6 months after 3<sup>rd</sup> dose**
- Children **ages 7 through 9 years** who receive DTaP or Tdap inadvertently or as part of a catch-up series **should** receive Tdap for the routinely recommended adolescent dose at 11-12 years of age
- For other catch-up guidance, please refer to immunization schedule notes

# Hepatitis A Vaccines

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## **Routine vaccination**

- Administer 2 dose series beginning at age 12 months

## **Catch-up vaccination**

- Administer 2 doses, separated by 6 months, to **all children and adolescents ages 2-18 years who have not previously been vaccinated**



# Hepatitis B Vaccines

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## **Routine vaccination**

- Dose 1 within 24 hours of birth
- Dose 2 @ 1-2 months of age, at least 1 month after first dose
- Dose 3 @ 6-18 months of age, minimum of 4 months after the first dose and minimum of 2 months after the second dose, but not before an infant is 24 weeks of age
- Administration of 4 doses is permitted when a combination vaccine containing HepB is used after the birth dose

## **Catch-up vaccination**

- 3-dose series at 0, 1-2, and 6 months for all unvaccinated persons
- Alternative 2-dose series (Recombivax HB only), with at least 4 months between doses, for persons ages 11-15
- Alternative series for persons 18 years or older

# Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) Vaccines

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## **Routine vaccination**

- 4-dose series at 2, 4, 6, and 12-15 months (ActHIB, Hiberix, Pentacel, or Vaxelis)
- 3-dose series at 2, 4, and 12-15 months (PedvaxHIB)
- **Vaxelis** is not recommended for booster dose

## **Catch-up vaccination**

- Administer 1 dose for unvaccinated children ages 15-59 months; Vaxelis can be used for catch-up vaccination in children less than 5 years of age
- **Previously unvaccinated children aged 5 years (60 months) or older who are not high risk, do not require catch-up vaccination**

# Polio Vaccine

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## Routine vaccination

- 4- dose series at 2, 4, 6 through 18 months, and 4 through 6 years
- Final dose **on or after** the fourth birthday, and at least 6 months after the previous dose
- 4 or more doses of IPV can be administered before the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday when a combination vaccine containing IPV is used. However, a final dose **at or after** age 4 years, and at least 6 months after the previous dose is still recommended

## Catch-up vaccination

- Final dose to be given on or after the 4th birthday, and at least 6 months after the previous dose, regardless of the number of previous doses
- IPV is not routinely recommended for U.S. residents 18 years and older
- Only trivalent OPV (tOPV) counts towards U.S. vaccination requirements

# Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccines

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## **Routine vaccination**

- 2- dose series at ages 12 through 15 months and 4 through 6 years (dose 2 may be given as early as 4 weeks after the 1<sup>st</sup> dose)

## **Catch-up vaccination**

- Unvaccinated children and adolescents: 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart

# Serogroup A, C, W, Y Meningococcal Vaccines

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## **Routine vaccination**

- 2-dose series to be administered at 11-12 years old and 16 years old
- **May be administered during pregnancy, if indicated**

## **Catch-up vaccination**

- Age 13-15 years, administer 1-dose and booster at age 16-18 years (minimal interval 8 weeks)
- 1-dose at age 16-18 years old

## **Special situations**

- 1 dose for first year college students who live in residential housing (if not previously vaccinated at age 16 years or older) or military recruits

# Pneumococcal Vaccines (PCV13, or PCV15)

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## **Routine vaccination with PCV13 or PCV15**

- 4-dose series at 2, 4, 6, and 12-15 months

## **Catch-up vaccination with PCV13 or PCV15**

- 1-dose for healthy children 24-59 months with any incomplete\* PCV13 or PCV15 schedule

# Varicella Vaccines

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## **Routine Recommendation**

- 2-dose series at 12 through 15 months and 4 through 6 years
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> dose may be given as early as 3 months after the 1<sup>st</sup> dose (a dose given after a 4-week interval may be counted)

## **Catch-up vaccination**

- Administer 2 doses to persons 7-18 years without evidence of immunity
- Ages 7-12 years routine interval between doses 3 months (minimum interval: 4 weeks)
- Ages 13 years and older routine interval between doses 4-8 weeks (minimum interval: 4 weeks)
- *The maximum age for use of MMRV is 12 years old*

# Requirements for School and Childcare Attendance



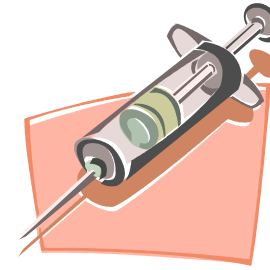


# School and Childcare Assessment Goal

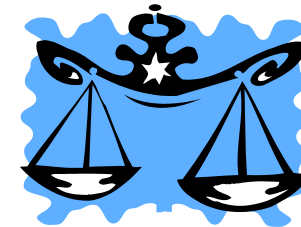
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- **Vaccines work**

Goal 100 % compliance rate



- **Immunization Laws work**



- **Partnerships work**



# School and Childcare Requirements

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- Georgia law requires children attending a school or childcare facility be protected from certain vaccine-preventable diseases.
- The Official Code of Georgia (§ 20-2-771) states, "No child shall be admitted to or attend any school or facility in this state unless the child shall first have submitted a certificate of immunization to the responsible official of the school or facility."
- The immunization requirements for school and childcare facility attendance are outlined in the Georgia Immunization Certificate (Form 3231) and the Policy Guides 3231INS and 3231REQ. Childcare facility operators, school personnel, healthcare providers and parents are responsible for seeing that these rules and laws are enforced.

# School and Childcare Requirements

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- The immunization records of children enrolled in Head Start programs, pre-kindergarten programs and childcare facilities will be reviewed at least once a year by public health.
- Public health or school officials will perform a review of kindergarten, 7th and 11th grade students at least once a year.
- Immunization documentation must be available at the school or childcare facility and be accessible for review during business hours. The school or childcare facility staff must assist the public health or school official in locating the immunization documentation for each child.

# Provider, School, and Childcare Responsibilities

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## **Physicians and Public Health Clinics:**

- Know the current legal requirements for attendance and accurately completing the certificate
- Administer immunizations according to the current Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule
- Report the occurrence of any diseases listed on the “Notifiable Disease List”
- Report any adverse event following the administration of a vaccine to VAERS

## **Schools and Childcare Facilities :**

- Review the certificates for validity prior to accepting
- Develop a system for immunization certificate management
- Have certificates available for inspection and audit by health officials
- Report the occurrence of any disease listed on the “Notifiable Disease List”

# Caregiver Responsibilities

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- Take their child to health care provider for well check ups and immunizations at the recommended times
- Review all vaccine facts that they receive before their child is immunized
- Discuss any questions or concerns about vaccines with the child's doctor or nurse
- Keep child's personal immunization record and take it with them on each visit to the health care provider to be assessed and updated
- Obtain a certificate for childcare and school attendance from health care provider
- Give a copy of the certificates to each facility the child attends

# Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231)

Rev. 07/2020

Georgia Department of Public Health

Form 3231

## CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNIZATION

Child's Name (Last name, First name)

Birthdate

(Optional) Parent/Guardian Name (Last name, First name)

Unless specifically exempted by law, Georgia law (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-771) requires a certificate on file for each child in attendance in any school or child care facility in Georgia with penalties for failure to comply. Detailed instructions for this form and immunization requirements by age are spelled out in policy guides 3231INS and 3231REQ distributed by the Georgia Immunization Office.

Date of Expiration

(Next required immunization or review of medical exemption due.)

Complete For K through 6th Grade

Child must be  $\geq$  4 years and have met all requirements for school attendance.

Complete For 7th through 10th Grade

Fulfills requirements K through 6th grade.

AND must have Tdap and MCV4 administered.

Complete For 11th Grade and higher

Fulfills requirements K through 10th grade.

AND must have MCV4 booster dose administered on or after 10th birthday.

VACCINE	DATE			DATE			DATE			DATE			DATE			Total Doses	Disposit	Serotype	History	Med. Exemption
	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY					
Required Vaccines for School or Child Care Attendance																				
DTP,DTaP,DT,Td																				
Polio																				
Hepatitis B																				
Tdap																				
MCV4																				
HIB (Under Age 5)																				
PCV (Under Age 5)																				
Measles																				
Mumps																				
Rubella																				
Hepatitis A (Born on/after 1/1/96)																				
Varicella																				
Recommended Vaccines (For Information Only)																				
Rotavirus																				
HPV																				
Influenza																				
Td (booster)																				
Men-B																				

### Notes:

A licensed Georgia physician, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Physician Assistant, qualified employee of a local Board of Health or the State Immunization Office is responsible for the content of this certificate. All dates must include month, day and year. In cases of natural immunity or Medical Exemption, the 4 digit year of infection, test or exemption must be filed in the appropriate boxes.

The certificate is NOT valid without name and birthdate of the child, date of expiration OR "X" in Complete for School Attendance box, legible name and address of the physician, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Physician Assistant or health department, certified by signature and a date of issue.

A school or facility official is responsible for keeping a current valid certificate on file for each child in attendance. A certificate must be replaced within 30 days after expiration. When a child leaves or transfers to another facility, the Certificate of Immunization should be given to a parent/guardian or sent to the new facility.

Printed, Typed or Stamped Name, Address and Telephone # of Licensed Physician or Health Department

Certified by (Signature/Signature Stamp) Date of Issue

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# Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231)

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- Certificate on file at each facility or school
- Photocopy or faxed copy acceptable
- A licensed Georgia physician, APRN, PA or public health official is responsible for completing the certificate
- Only physician offices and health clinics can obtain blank certificates

Policy Guide 3231INS  
Standards for Issuing and Filing Certificates of Immunization  
[Form 3231 (Rev. July 2021)]  
For Georgia Facilities and Schools

**Who is required to have the Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231)?**

Children attending any childcare facility, pre-kindergarten, Head Start program, nursery, or school are required to have this form on file. This includes public and private operations and all enterprises, educational programs and institutions involved in the care, supervision, or instruction of children. Certificates are required for all children through grade 12.

**Who may issue certificates?**

Only a licensed Georgia physician, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Physician Assistant or qualified employee of a local Board of Health or the State Immunization Office may issue this certificate. The physician, APRN, PA or health department is responsible for interpretation of and compliance with the requirements set forth in Chapter 511-2-2 of the *Rules of the Department of Public Health*.

**How to file and maintain the certificates:**

1. A valid certificate for all children must have the following information legibly completed:
  - Child's Name
  - Birth date
  - Name, address, and phone number of a Physician or Health Department
  - Certified by Signature
  - Date of Issue
  - Dates (month, date, and year) in the vaccine history (dates vaccines administered) section and/or 4-digit year in the "diagnosed", "serology", "history" or "medical exemption" boxes.
2. A valid certificate for children under 4 years of age must have:
  - All of the information in item #1 and a "Date of Expiration" noted in the appropriate space.
3. A valid certificate for a child aged 4 through 10 years must have:
  - All of the information in item #1
  - If complete for "K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade" requirements an "X" will be displayed in the "Complete for K through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade" box with no date of expiration
  - If not complete for K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade requirements an expiration date will display only.
4. A valid certificate for a child aged 10 years and older must have:
  - All of the information in item #1
  - If not complete for "K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade" requirements an expiration date will display only
  - If complete for "K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade" requirements an "X" will display in the "Complete for K through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade" box with an expiration date
  - If complete for "7<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> Grade" requirements an "X" will display in both the "Complete for K through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade" and "Complete for 7<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> Grade" box with an expiration date
  - If complete for "11<sup>th</sup> grade requirements" an "X" will display in the "Complete for 11<sup>th</sup> Grade and Higher" box of the certificate and the certificate does not have a date of expiration. No additional shots are required for school attendance.
5. The certificate becomes invalid on the expiration date indicated. If a current certificate has not been submitted within 30 days after the expiration date, the child must be excluded from attendance until a current certificate is obtained.



## CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNIZATION

Child's Name (Last name, First name)

Date of birth

(Optional) Parent/Guardian Name (Last name, First name)

Unless specifically exempted by law, Georgia law (O.C.G.A. § 26-1-71) requires a certificate of immunization for every child attending school or child care facility in Georgia with penalties for failure to comply. Detailed instructions for this form and immunization requirements by age are spelled out in policy guides 3231INS and 3231REQ distributed by the Georgia Immunization Office.

Date of Expiration

(Next required immunization or review of medical exemption due.)

☐ (Fill in X)

Complete For K through 6th Grade

Child must be  $\geq 4$  years and have met all requirements for school attendance.

☐ (Fill in X)

Complete For 7th through 10th Grade

Fulfills requirements K through 6th grade AND must have Tdap and MCV4 administered.

☐ (Fill in X)

Complete For 11th Grade and higher

Fulfills requirements K through 10th grade AND must have MCV4 booster dose administered on or after 16th birthday.

VACCINE	DATE			DATE			DATE			DATE			DATE			DATE			Total Doses	Diagnosed	Serology*	History	Med. Exemption
	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	YY					
Required Vaccines for School or Child Care Attendance																							
DTP,DTaP,DT,Td																							
Polio																							
Hepatitis B																							
Tdap																							
MCV4																							
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Recommended Vaccines (For Information Only)																							
Rotavirus																							
HPV																							
Influenza																							
Td (booster)																							
Men-B																							

## Notes:

A licensed Georgia physician, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Physician Assistant, qualified employee of a local Board of Health or the State Immunization Office is responsible for the content of this certificate. All dates must include month, day and year. In cases of natural immunity or Medical Exemption, the 4 digit year of infection, test or exemption must be filed in the appropriate box(es).

The certificate is NOT valid without name and birthdate of the child, date of expiration OR "X" in Complete for School Attendance box, legible name and address of the physician, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Physician Assistant or health department, certified by signature and a date of issue.

A school or facility official is responsible for keeping a current valid certificate on file for each child in attendance. A certificate must be replaced within 30 days after expiration. When a child leaves or transfers to another facility, the Certificate of Immunization should be given to a parent/guardian or sent to the new facility.

Printed, Typed or  
Stamped Name,  
Address and  
Telephone # of  
Licensed  
Physician  
or Health Department

Certified by (Signature/Signature Stamp) Date of Issue

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# Expiration Date

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- Expires on the date entered as “Expiration Date”
- Must be replaced with a current certificate within 30 days
- Required for all children less than four years old
- Required for all children ages four through ten years who have not completed K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade requirements, children 10 years and older who have not completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade or higher requirements, or adolescents at age 16 who have not completed 11<sup>th</sup> grade or higher requirements
- Required if a medical exemption for a vaccine(s) is marked

# Complete Certificate for School Attendance

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Issued only to children who:

- Are four years of age or older; **and**
- Have met all the requirements for school attendance as outlined in the Policy Guide 3231REQ; **and**
- Have all the required vaccine administration dates or natural immunity dates filled in; **and**
- **Do not** have a “**Date of Expiration**”

# Exemptions

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## **Medical**

- Physical disability or condition
- Documented in the medical exemption box indicated for each vaccine
- Reviewed annually

## **Religious**

- Documented on Form 2208
- Form kept on file by the school or facility in lieu of a Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231)
- Do not expire

# Religious Exemption

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## DPH Rules and Regulations 511-2-2-.07

### **511-2-2-.07 Religious Objections to Required Immunizations**

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2) below, a child shall be exempt from the required immunizations if the parent or legal guardian has filed with the school or childcare facility a completed affidavit on DPH Form 2208.

(2) When the Department or a County Board of Health determines that an epidemic or the threat of an epidemic exists, the Department or Board shall immediately notify the governing authorities of all schools and childcare facilities within the affected area. Under those circumstances, the Department or Board may require immunization for those who object on the grounds of religious beliefs, and may prohibit attendance at schools or childcare facilities within the area by unimmunized children.

(3) Persons who wish to register a religious objection to the vaccination of their child shall do so using the following DPH Form 2208:

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF RELIGIOUS OBJECTION TO IMMUNIZATION**

[Name of parent or legal guardian] personally appeared before the undersigned notary public and swore or affirmed as follows:

1. I am the parent or legal guardian of [name of minor child].

**Vaccine Requirements for Attending Facilities and Schools in Georgia  
Relative to the Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231)**

**Required Doses for Attendance in Facilities and Schools  
For Children Who Started Immunizations Before Age 7 Years\***

Required Vaccines with footnote numbers in [ ]	2 Months of Age	4 Months of Age	6 Months of Age	12 Months of Age	15 Months of Age	18 Months of Age	24 Months of Age	4-6 Yrs.* (School Entry)	Total Doses Required** For Checking Complete For School Attendance Box on Immunization Certificate
[1] DTP, DTaP, DT	1	2	3	4				5	4 or 5 (See Footnote [1])
[2] Hepatitis B	1	2		3					3 (See Footnote [2])
[3] Hib PRP-T or	1	2	3	4					N/A for school (See Footnote [3])
[3] Hib PRP-OMP	1	2		3					N/A for school (See Footnote [3])
[4] Polio	1	2		3				4	3 or 4 (See Footnote [4])
[5] MMR				1				2	2 (See Footnote [5])
[6] Varicella				1				2	2 (See Footnote [6])
[7] PCV	1	2	3	4					N/A for school (See Footnote [7])
[8] Hepatitis A				1			2		(See Footnote [8])

\*These requirements were established in accordance with the current Recommended Childhood and Catch-Up Immunization Schedules, United States. (See references on reverse side.) Georgia requirements for Kindergarten (5 years) include doses indicated for 4-6 years.

\*\*Children who are behind schedule may attend while in the process of completing the requirements with minimum intervals as indicated below.

**Minimum Ages For Initial Immunization And Minimum Intervals Between Doses**

Vaccine	Minimum Age For First Dose	Minimum interval from dose 1 to 2	Minimum interval from dose 2 to 3	Minimum interval from dose 3 to 4	Minimum interval from dose 4 to 5	With respect to these intervals, 1 month is a minimum of 4 weeks or 28 days.
[1] DTP/DTaP (DT)	6 weeks	1 month	1 month	6 months	See Footnote [1]	Don't restart any series, no matter how long since the previous dose. Doses given ≤ 4 days before the minimum age or the minimum interval may be counted as valid. Two different live vaccines must be given on the same day or spaced at least 28 days apart.
[2] Hepatitis B	birth	1 month	See Footnote [2]	N/A	N/A	
[3] Hib (Primary Series)						
PRP-T (ActHIB)	6 weeks	1 month	1 month	See Footnote [3]	N/A	
PRP-OMP (Pedvax)	6 weeks	1 month	See Footnote [3]	N/A	N/A	
[4] Polio	6 weeks	1 month	1 month	See Footnote [4]	N/A	
[5] MMR	12 months	1 month	N/A	N/A	N/A	
[6] Varicella	12 months	3 months	N/A	N/A	N/A	
[7] PCV	6 weeks	1 month	1 month	See Footnote [7]	N/A	
[8] Hepatitis A	12 months	6 months				

- [1] One dose of DTP/DTaP/DT must be on or after the 4th birthday. If the 4th dose was on or after the 4th birthday, the 5th dose is not needed. The 4th dose should be administered a minimum of 6 months after the 3rd dose. However, the 4th dose does not need to be repeated if administered ≥ 4 months after dose 3. Total doses of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids should not exceed 6 before the 7th birthday.
- [2] The 3rd dose of Hepatitis B vaccine should be given a minimum of 4 months after the 1st dose and 2 months after the 2nd dose and not before 24 weeks of age.
- [3] The number of doses of Hib depends on age at 1st dose and brand of vaccine given. The last dose in the series, whether 3rd or 4th, should be given at least 2 months after the previous dose and not before 12 months of age. Hib is required for children younger than 5 years attending facilities. Hib is not required for admission to kindergarten (5 years) through grade 12 and is not indicated for children who have reached the 5th birthday. One dose is sufficient if it is given at age 15 months or later. Brand names for PRP-T is ActHIB. The brand name for PRP-OMP is Pedvax Hib and the Hib component of Comvax (Hepatitis B-Hib) is Pedvax Hib.
- [4] Booster dose must be given on or after the 4th birthday and a 6 month interval is required between the last dose of the primary series and the booster dose. If the 3rd dose of all IPV or all OPV series is given on or after the 4th birthday, a 4th dose is not required provided there is a 6 month interval since the previous dose.
- [5] The MMR requirement is 2 doses of measles vaccine, 2 doses of mumps vaccine and 1 dose of rubella vaccine. The vaccines may be given as MMR or MMRV (combined antigens) or as single antigens.
- [6] The varicella requirement is for 2 doses of varicella-containing vaccine for entry into any level, K-12. (See Side 2 of REQ, Footnote [4]). These may be administered as single dose varicella or in combination as MMRV.
- [7] The number of doses in the PCV series depends on age at 1st dose. The last dose in the series should be given at least 2 months after the previous dose and not before 12 months of age.
- [8] Hepatitis A vaccine should be administered to all children born on or after 1-1-06.



**Vaccine Requirements for Attending Facilities and Schools in Georgia  
Relative to the Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231)**

**Required Doses for Attendance in Schools For Children  
Who Started Immunizations At Age 7 Years or Older\***

Required Vaccines** with footnote numbers in [ ]	First Visit	1 Month After First	1 Month After Second	1 Month After Third	4 Months After First	6 Months After Previous	Total Doses Required*** For Checking Complete For School Attendance Box on Immunization Certificate
[1]Hepatitis B Engerix 10 mcg or Recombivax 5 mcg	1	2			3		3 (See Footnote [1])
Recombivax 10 mcg (11-15 years only)	1				2		2 (See Footnote [1])
[2]Polio	1	2	3			4 or 3	3 or 4 (See Footnote [2])
[3]MMR	1	2					2 (See Footnote [3])
[4]Varicella	1	2					2 (See Footnote [4])
[5]Td/Tdap	1(Tdap)	2(Td)				3(Td)	3 (See Footnote [5])
[6] Meningococcal							1 or 2 (See Footnote [6])

\*These requirements were established in accordance with the current Recommended Childhood Immunization Schedule, United States. See References.

\*\*There are other vaccines included in the Childhood Immunization Schedule that are recommended routinely but are not required in GA for child care or school attendance.

\*\*\*Children who are behind schedule may attend while in the process of completing requirements with minimum intervals indicated above. With respect to these intervals, 1 month is a minimum of 4 weeks or 28 days.

**Footnotes:**

- [1] The 3rd dose of Hepatitis B Engerix-B 10 mcg or Recombivax-HB 5 mcg should be given a minimum of 4 months after the 1st dose and 2 months after the 2nd dose. A 3rd dose is not needed when 2 doses of Adult Recombivax-HB 10 mcg are given when a child is 11-15 years old and the 2 doses are at least 4 months apart. Documentation of the vaccine brand of this alternate schedule is very important, especially when issuing the 3231 certificate.
- [2] If the 3rd dose of all IPV or OPV series is given on or after the 4th birthday, a 4th dose is not required provided there is a 6 month interval since the previous dose.
- [3] The MMR requirement is 2 doses of measles vaccine, 2 doses of mumps vaccine and 1 dose of rubella vaccine. The vaccines may be given as MMR or MMRV (combined antigens) or as single antigens.
- [4] Two doses of varicella vaccine are required for children entering school at any level, K-12, for the first time. For children already enrolled, the second dose is required at 6th grade. If given before age 12, the doses should be separated by 3 months, however, the 2nd dose does not need to be repeated if administered  $\geq$  1 month after 1st dose. If given on or after the 13th birthday, the doses should be separated by 4 or more weeks.
- [5] One dose of Tdap is required for 7th grade. Tdap can be administered regardless of the interval since the last Td. If a primary series is indicated, one dose preferably the first dose, should be Tdap. A dose of Tdap given on or after the 7th birthday meets school requirement.
- [6] One dose of MCV4 is required for 7th grade; routinely at age 11-12 years. A dose of MCV4 given on or after age 10 years meets school requirement. A booster dose of MCV4 is required for 11th grade; routinely at age 16 years or older. If the first dose of MCV4 is given at 16 years or older, a booster dose is not required.

References: Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Section 20-2-771  
Rules of the Department of Public Health, Chapter 511-2-2  
Georgia Immunization Program Manual  
Georgia VFC Program Manual  
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)  
The Red Book - Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases

Recommended Childhood & Catch-Up Immunization Schedules, U.S.:  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)  
Approved by ACIP, AAP and American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)

Rev. 07/2020

# Childcare Requirements

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- Number of vaccine doses
- Always need more doses
- Must have a current “expiration date”



# School Requirements

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- Any “new entrant” enrolling in a Georgia school at any grade or level, must be age appropriately immunized with required vaccines
- Number of doses depends on the child’s age
- **“Complete for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade or higher ” is marked with a date of expiration for 11<sup>th</sup> grade vaccination requirements**
- **“Complete for 11<sup>th</sup> Grade or higher” is marked; certificate is complete**



## Summary of Georgia Immunization Requirements for Child Care & School Attendance

These charts are based on the ACIP Recommendations and Georgia Requirements; for more detailed information including dose schedules and minimum time intervals; please refer to Georgia Form 3231REQ and Table 3-1 of the ACIP General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization



### Required Number of Doses for Children Who Started Immunizations before Age 7 Years

Required Vaccines	2 mos	4 mos	6 mos	12 mos	15 mos	18 mos	24 mos	4-6 yrs	5-6 yrs of age Total Doses Required for School Entry
DTP, DT, DTaP	1	2	3	4				5	4 or 5 (if 4 <sup>th</sup> dose given on or after 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday, 5 <sup>th</sup> dose is not needed)
Hep B	1	2	3						3
Hib (ActHIB, Hiberix, or Pentacel) or Hib *(PedvaxHIB)	1	2	3	4					Required for Child Care and Pre-K only
	1	2		3					
**Polio	1	2	3					4	3 or 4 (4 <sup>th</sup> dose of polio on or after 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday required for children born on or after 1-1-06)
***MMR				1				2	2
Varicella				1				2	2
PCV	1	2	3	4					Required for Child Care & Pre-K only
Hep A				1			2		2 Required for children born on or after 1-1-06

\*If PedvaxHIB is administered at ages 2 and 4 months, a dose at 6 months is not indicated.

\*\*The final dose in the series should be administered on or after the fourth birthday and at least 6 months following the previous dose. If 4 doses are administered prior to age 4 years a fifth dose should be administered at age 4 through 6 years. (MMWR 2009; 58(30):829-30).

\*\*\*State requirement is for 2-doses each of measles and mumps, and 1 dose of rubella vaccine. Second dose may be given before age 4 years, provided at least 4 weeks have elapsed since first dose.

***Required Number of Doses for Children Who Started Immunizations after Age 7 Years***

<b>Required Vaccines</b>	<b>First Visit</b>	<b>1 Mo After 1<sup>st</sup> Dose</b>	<b>1 Mo After 2<sup>nd</sup> Dose</b>	<b>1 Mo After 3<sup>rd</sup> Dose</b>	<b>4 Mo After 1<sup>st</sup> Dose</b>	<b>6 Mo After Previous Dose</b>	<b>Total Doses Required</b>
<b>*Hep B</b>	1	2			3*		3
<b>**Polio</b>	1	2	3			3 or 4	3 or 4
<b>***MMR</b>	1	2					2
<b>Varicella</b>	1	2					2
<b>****Tdap/Td</b>	1(Tdap)	2(Td/Tdap)				3(Td/Tdap)	3
<b>*****MenACWY</b>	1 (11-12 yrs)	1 (≥16 yrs)					2

\*If child received 2 doses of adult Recombivax-HB 10 mcg between the ages of 11-15 yrs. and the doses are separated by at least 4 months, a 3<sup>rd</sup> dose is not needed.

\*\* The final dose in the series should be administered on or after the fourth birthday and at least 6 months following the previous dose. A 4<sup>th</sup> dose is not necessary if the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose.

\*\*\* State requirement is for 2-doses each of measles and mumps, and 1 dose of rubella vaccine.

\*\*\*\*State requirement is for 1-dose of Tdap booster for 7<sup>th</sup> grade entrance; Td or Tdap is recommended for remaining additional doses to complete series. DTaP given at age 7 through 9 years may count as part of the catch-up series. An inadvertent dose of DTaP given at age 10 through 18 years can count as the adolescent Tdap booster dose.

\*\*\*\*\* State requirement is for 1-dose of MenACWY for 7<sup>th</sup> grade entrance and 1-dose for 11<sup>th</sup> grade entrance on or after 16<sup>th</sup> birthdate; minimum 8-week interval between doses.

Revised April 2021

# Certificate Filing

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- Available for inspection by health officials
- Photocopy acceptable
- Sent copy to the new school/facility
- In the case of religious exemption, Form 2208 must be on file in lieu of Form 3231

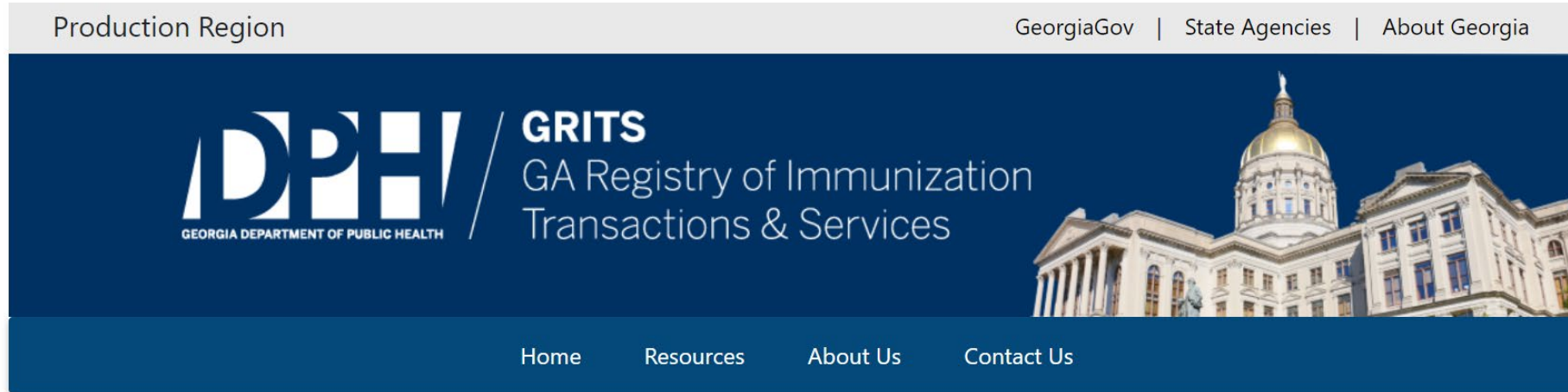
# Tickler Filing System

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Instructions are located in the ***Immunization Guidelines for Child Care Facility Operators & School Personnel (Form 3258)***

- Set up by month and year
- Parent reminders
- Summary of GA Immunization requirements
- Document follow-up
- Enforce requirements

# GA Registry of Immunization Transactions & Services (GRITS)



Before you login, [click here for an overview of "What's new with GRITS?"](#)



Organization Code

User Name

Password

Login

# GA Registry of Immunization Transactions & Services (GRITS)

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## **A “Birth to Death” Immunization Registry**

- Providers administering vaccines in Georgia must provide appropriate information to GRITS
- Create an interface between your system and GRITS that will drastically decrease data entry
- Reduced missed opportunities to vaccinate at risk individuals
- Reduction of over immunization of individuals
- Accurate Vaccine Inventory Tracking by Lot # for privately and public funded vaccine
- Reminder/recall notices for parents



en Español



About VAERS

Report an Adverse Event

VAERS Data



Resources



Submit Follow-Up Information

### Have you had a reaction following a vaccination?

1. Contact your healthcare provider.
2. [Report an Adverse Event](#) using the VAERS online form or the downloadable PDF. *New!*

**Important:** If you are experiencing a medical emergency, seek immediate assistance from a healthcare provider or call 9-1-1. CDC and FDA do not provide individual medical treatment, advice, or diagnosis. If you need individual medical or health care advice, consult a qualified healthcare provider.



Reporting requirements for healthcare providers administering

**Public Health Reports should be faxed or mailed to the State Immunization Program. Fax number (404)657-1463**



# The Assessment

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- The following information is recorded during the immunization assessment:
  - Number of children enrolled
  - Number of children who have valid current certificates
  - Number of children with expired certificates
  - Number of children with current 30-day waivers
  - Number of children with religious exemptions
  - Number of children with medical exemptions
  - Number of children with certificates marked “complete” but missing required doses
  - Number of children with no documentation on file

# The Assessment

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- When the certificates are reviewed, 100 percent of children attending the school or childcare facility must have appropriate immunization documentation to meet the requirements of the law.
- Follow-up must be conducted 30 days after the initial visit.
- Noncompliant childcare facilities will be reported to the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL).
- Enforcement for Non-Compliant Schools are still being discussed however there are laws that can impose a fine for each non-compliant student.

# Data Entry

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- All data collected must be entered into the **School and Childcare Database (SCAD)**
- SCAD is a web-based database within **State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (SENDSS)**
- To access the database, you must register for SENDSS. Once registered, access to SCAD is granted at the district or state level
- Training materials maybe obtained by contacting LaTonya Thomas-Smith at [latonya.thomas-smith@dph.ga.gov](mailto:latonya.thomas-smith@dph.ga.gov)

# School and Childcare Guidance and Deadlines

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- **Childcare:**
  - Data collection period is January 1-December 31
  - Data entry is due is provider in annual communication
- **Kindergarten, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> Grade:**
  - Data collection period is August 1-December 31
  - Data entry is due is provider in annual communication

# State Resources

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- Local Health Department
- GA Immunization Program Office
  - On Call Help Line: 404-657-3158
  - GRITS Help Line: 1-866-483-2958
  - VFC Help Line: 1-800-848-3868
  - Website: <https://dph.georgia.gov/immunization-section>
  - Your local Immunization Regional Program Consultant (IRC)
  - Epidemiology: 1-866-782-4584
- GA Chapter of the AAP
- GA Academy of Family Physicians

# It's a Team Effort!

High Immunization rates begin with a team designed plan!



What can your team do to improve rates?