

Vaccine Requirements for School and Child Care Entry in Colorado



School and child care vaccine requirements have existed for over 40 years in Colorado. These requirements have helped support vaccination coverage among our state's children and kept deadly diseases like measles and polio out of schools and communities.

Which Vaccines Are Required?

School

- Hepatitis B
- Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTaP)
- Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
- Varicella (chicken pox)
- Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap)

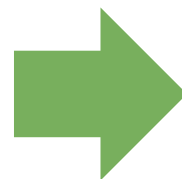
Child Care

- Hepatitis B
- Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTaP)
- Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib)
- Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)
- Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV13 or PCV15)
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
- Varicella (chicken pox)

K-12 and child care entry law in Colorado requires these vaccines to be administered according to the CDC's recommended vaccine schedule.



13% of CO's kindergartners aren't vaccinated against MMR
(2022-2023)



This is incredibly dangerous, as measles is among the most contagious vaccine-preventable diseases.

Why Do We Require Vaccines for School?

Diseases like measles can spread very easily in close-quarter settings like schools and child cares, which is why all 50 states require vaccines for school and child care entry. High vaccination rates for students help stop outbreaks, prevent missed school and work due to illness, and keep kids, school staff, and the community safe. **Vaccines are safe, effective, and one of the best tools we have to prevent illness.**

Colorado has
required vaccines for
school and child care
entry since

1978

Vaccinating children born in a single year can:



Prevent 42,000 early deaths



Save \$13.5 billion in direct health care costs



Prevent 20 million cases of disease

Colorado ranked **44th** out of 53 U.S. jurisdictions in MMR vaccination for kindergarteners in 2021.

Is Anyone Exempt?

ALL states require vaccinations for school entry. Colorado does have an exemption process for medical and non-medical reasons.

The **less vaccinated** our children are, the **more vulnerable** everyone is.