

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
REGARDING
2009-2010 IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR
LICENSED CHILD CARE FACILITIES, REGISTERED FAMILY DAY CARE
HOMES AND EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS OPERATED BY SCHOOLS
*UPDATED MARCH 30, 2009***

General Questions

Q: Immunization requirements for child care facilities and family day care homes have changed. Why?

A: K.A.R. 28-1-20 Immunizations Required for School Entry was amended in 2008 to include child care facilities, family day care homes and early childhood programs operated by schools. Immunization requirements for children attending child care programs licensed or registered by KDHE and for children attending early childhood programs operated by schools are now the same. Including the child care immunization requirements with those for school entry provides continuity and a single regulation for Kansas immunization requirements. A copy of K.A.R. 28-1-20 is available at http://www.kdheks.gov/immunize/download/KS_Imm_Regs_for_School_and_Childcare.pdf.

Q: What immunizations were previously required and what is now required?

A: **2009 Required Immunizations for Children in Child Care or Early Childhood Programs Operated by Schools**

Immunization	Comments
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP/DT/Td/Tdap)	Continues to be required.
Polio	Continues to be required.
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)	Continues to be required.
Varicella (chicken pox)	New 2009 (previously recommended).
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)	New 2009 (previously recommended).
Hepatitis A (HEP A)	New 2009
Hepatitis B (HBV)	New 2009 (previously recommended).
Pneumococcal (PCV7)	New 2009

Q: Where do I find a copy of the current immunization schedule?

A: The current immunization schedules, including catch-up schedules, are available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/immunize/schedule.htm>.

Questions from Parents

Q: At my child's last well-child visit, the Doctor said my child would not need any additional immunizations until kindergarten. Now my child care provider tells me there are new requirements for child care and that my child may need additional immunizations. How do I know if my child's immunization record is current?

A: The newly required immunizations for child care were previously recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), but not required by Kansas regulations. However, at the recommendation of your health care provider, your child may have already received these immunizations.

Child care providers have been instructed to review the records of children in their care and to work with parents to obtain current immunization histories. Copies of the newly revised Medical Record for all Children in Child Care Facilities and Family Day Care Homes are available at http://www.kdheks.gov/bcclr/forms/lic_daycare_general.html, and available from your child care provider or local health department. Complete the History of Immunization Section (page 2) of the Medical Record form. If your child has not received some of the required immunizations or if you have questions concerning the number of doses required for your child's age, visit with your health care provider to determine if additional immunizations are required at this time.

Q: My child attends a preschool operated by my school district in the morning and goes to day care in the afternoon. Are the immunization requirements the same for both settings?

Yes. The immunization requirements are the same for both settings.

Questions from Child Care Providers

Q: I am a child care provider, how much time do I have to get children's records up to date?

A: Implementation of the new requirements began in February when child care providers were notified of the new requirements. Child Care providers are to review the files of children in care and to work with parents to update immunization records. Through July, child care licensing surveyors will provide consultation and technical assistance on the new requirements to providers. Compliance with the new requirements will be measured beginning with the start of school in August.

Questions from Child Care Licensing Surveyors

Q: For most vaccinations, children need to receive several doses to be fully immunized. The CDC recommendation for children beginning a series late might be for fewer doses than Kansas requires. How do we deal with those cases?

A: You can determine whether the child is current, the interval between doses and the number of additional doses required by referring to the 2009 Child Adolescent Minimum Interval/Catch Up Schedule available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/immunize/schedule.htm>. In some instances, this will mean that a child will receive fewer doses than is otherwise recommended.

Q: Where do I go to find additional guidance materials concerning the immunization requirements for schools and child care, including any updates?

A: Visit the Immunization Program website at <http://www.kdheks.gov/immunize/schoolInfo.htm> for the most current information concerning the requirements for schools and child care.

Q: The Immunization regulation (K.A.R. 28-1-20) includes Haemophilus influenzae type B(Hib), pneumococcal (PCV7) and Hepatitis A (Hep A) in the list of required immunizations for children under 16 years of age in child care, including the child care provider's own children. Are school age children attending child care required to have these 3 vaccines?

No. Hib and pneumococcal vaccines cannot be given to children 5 years and older. At this time Hep A will not be required for children in child care, including the provider's own children, who are 5 years of age and older. **UPDATED 03/31/2009**

Questions about Specific Immunization Requirements

Varicella Requirement

Q: Do children with a history of having had chicken pox need to receive the varicella vaccination?

A: No. Children with a history of the disease that has been documented by a licensed physician would not need to be vaccinated.

Q: Some early versions of the Medical Record for Children in Child Care Facilities and Family Day Care Homes, allow for either the parent or physician to document history of the disease(see History of Immunization Section found of page 2 of the form). However, in the version currently posted on the website, physician documentation is the only option listed. Which is it?

A: We apologize for the mistake. Earlier versions of the Medical Record form were incorrect. The 2008 revision of K.A.R. 28-1-20 states "...history of the disease that has been documented by a licensed physician". To comply with the regulation, the Medical Record form has been corrected and posted at http://www.kdheks.gov/bcclr/forms/lic_daycare_general.html.

Q: The schools are "grandfathering" in parental documentation of history of chicken pox for children currently attending school. What about school age children in child care?

A: For a school age child attending child care, the immunization requirements for school apply. The Immunization Program has provided the following guidance concerning varicella: for those currently enrolled students with history of the disease, documentation by either a physician **or** parent is acceptable. Students entering grades 7-9 without documentation of the disease signed by a physician will need to be vaccinated. All **new** students enrolling in grades K-9 will need either the vaccination or documentation of the disease signed by a physician. All children enrolled in early childhood programs operated by schools will need either the vaccination or documentation of the disease signed by a physician. **UPDATED 03/31/2009**

Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) Requirement

Q: There is currently a Hib vaccine shortage and the 4th dose of Hib is deferred for all children. Will children younger than 5 years of age be required to have the 4th dose of Hib?

A: No. For the 2009-2010 school year, the requirement will be 3 doses.

Pneumococcal (PCV7) Requirement

Q: We have a 3 yr old child in care who has never received the PCV7 vaccination. Is the child too old to be immunized?

A: No. The PCV7 vaccination is required for children less than 5 years of age. Please refer to the 2009 Immunization Schedules at <http://www.kdheks.gov/immunize/schedule.htm> for the appropriate dosage schedule for older children.