

## NEW IMMUNIZATION REGULATIONS

The Department of Health is changing school immunization regulations beginning in August 2017. The regulations are intended to ensure that children attending school in the commonwealth are adequately protected against potential outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases.

The following immunizations are required for attendance in **ALL grades in the 2017-2018 school year.**

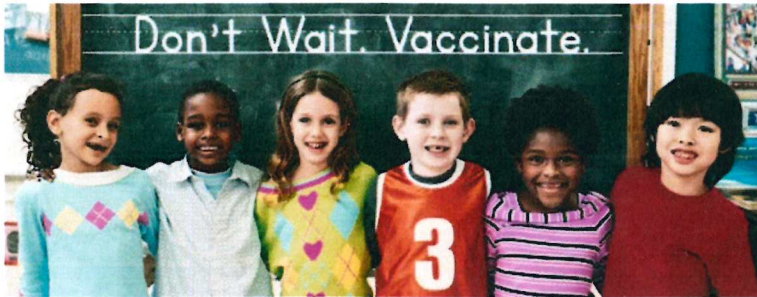
- 4 doses of tetanus (1 dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- 4 doses of diphtheria (1 dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- 4 doses of polio (1 dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- 2 doses of measles, mumps and rubella
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or evidence of immunity

### **For attendance in 7<sup>th</sup> grade**

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis on the first day of 7<sup>th</sup> grade
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV) on the first day of 7<sup>th</sup> grade

### **For attendance in 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

- 1 dose of MCV on the first day of 12<sup>th</sup> grade. If one dose was given at 16 years of age or older, that shall count as the twelfth grade dose.



**A CHILD MUST HAVE REQUIRED VACCINES OR RISK EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL.**

A child must have the required medically appropriate vaccines or a plan to complete those vaccines or risk exclusion from school. A child may still obtain medical, religious or philosophical exemption from meeting the immunization requirements. Talk to your child's pediatrician about the vaccines your child needs to attend school.

### **Exemptions to the school laws for immunizations are:**

Medical reasons, religious beliefs, and philosophical/strong moral or ethical conviction: A waiver signed by parent must be documented and kept with student's records. *If your child is exempt from immunizations, he or she may be removed from school during an outbreak.*

### VACCINE SAFETY

Vaccines are held to the highest standard of safety

The United States has the safest, most effective vaccine supply in history

Vaccines are continually monitored for safety and effectiveness

Contact your health care provider or the PA Department of Health at 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258)

Vaccine information can be found at [www.dontwaitvaccinate.pa.gov](http://www.dontwaitvaccinate.pa.gov)

Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in 28 PA Code Ch.23 (School Immunization)