

**Immunization Requirement Summary for Child Care through 12<sup>th</sup> Grades**  
**Tennessee Department of Health Rule 1200-14-1-.29**

**Children enrolling in child care facilities, pre-school, pre-Kindergarten:**

*Infants entering child care facilities must be up to date at the time of enrollment and are required to provide an updated certificate after completing all of the required vaccines due by 18 months of age.*

- *Haemophilus influenzae* type B (Hib): if younger than 5 years only
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV): if younger than 5 years only
- Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTaP, or DT if appropriate)
- Poliomyelitis (IPV or OPV)
- Hepatitis B (HBV)
- Hepatitis A: 1 dose, required by 18 months of age or older
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (1 dose of each, usually given together as MMR)
- Varicella (1 dose or credible history of disease)

**Children enrolling in Kindergarten:**

- Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTaP, or DT if appropriate)
- Poliomyelitis (IPV or OPV): final dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday required
- Hepatitis B (HBV)
- Hepatitis A: total of 2 doses, spaced at least 6 months apart
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (2 doses of each, usually given together as MMR)
- Varicella (2 doses or history of disease): previously only one dose was required

**All children entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade (including currently enrolled students):**

- Verification of immunity to varicella: 2 doses or credible history of disease
- Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis booster ("Tdap"): not required if a Td booster dose given less than 5 years before 7<sup>th</sup> grade entry is recorded on the DTaP/Td line

**Children who are new enrollees in a TN school in grades other than Kindergarten or 7<sup>th</sup>:**

- Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTaP, or DT if appropriate)
- Poliomyelitis (IPV or OPV): final dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday required
- Hepatitis B (HBV)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (2 doses of each, usually given together as MMR)
- Varicella (2 doses or credible history of disease): only one dose was required until 2010

**Children with medical or religious exemption to requirements:**

- **Medical:** Physician (MD, DO) or health department authorized to indicate specific vaccines medically exempted (because of risk of harm) on the new form. Other vaccines remain required. The medical reason for the exemption does not need to be provided.
- **Religious:** This exemption requires a signed statement by the parent/guardian that vaccination conflicts with their religious tenets or practices. *If the child needs documentation of a health examination for the school, it must be noted by the healthcare provider on the immunization certificate. In that case, the provider should check the box that the parent has sought a religious exemption to explain why immunization information is absent or incomplete.*

**Minimum ages or dose intervals:** Tennessee follows published CDC guidelines. For vaccines with critical minimum age requirements or minimum dose intervals, doses are considered valid if given up to 4 days before the minimum age or dose interval. Doses administered more than 4 days early are considered invalid and should be repeated as recommended.

**Alternative proof of immunity for certain diseases:** A positive serology (year of test documented) is acceptable as an alternative to immunization for measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis A, hepatitis B or varicella. For varicella, documentation of provider diagnosed varicella (year) or provider-verified credible history of illness given by a parent or guardian (year) also is acceptable. By documenting a history of disease, the provider is asserting that he or she is convinced that the child has had chickenpox.

Instructions for Completing Tennessee Certificates of Immunization (PH-4103, Rev. 5/11)

Q. Who can sign the Official Certificate?

A. Persons licensed in the state of Tennessee by the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Osteopathic Examiners, advanced practice nurses licensed by the Board of Nursing and any Tennessee health department. A *medical exemption* requires a physician or health department signature.

Q. How can an Official Certificate be completed?

A1. Hard copies are available to healthcare providers (not to parents) from local health departments or the Tennessee Immunization Program (call 615-741-7247 or 1-800-404-3006).

A2. (Preferred) Blank or pre-populated forms can be printed from the website of the Tennessee Web Immunization System (TWIS). TWIS is free to authorized users: visit <https://twis.tn.us>. Pre-populated certificates include demographic information, vaccinations and provider contact information. If the TWIS record is incomplete or if none exists, users can update or create a record before printing the Certificate.

Instructions for completing the Official Certificate (refer to Sample PH-4103, Rev. 5/11):

Note: a revised version was introduced in May 2011. The previous version (Rev. 3/10) is acceptable.

**Child's identifying and contact details:** Upper left corner, complete as indicated.

**Section 1.** This section is subject to school policy, health departments do not regulate this.

**Section 1a. Religious Exemption:** check this box if the Certificate is needed to provide documentation of a required health examination for a child not fully immunized for religious reasons.

**Sections 1b and 1c. Health Examination Documentation (if required):** Requirements set by local educational authorities. If necessary, provide date of examination and signature/stamp of the certifying healthcare provider. Also, check if dental or vision screening is needed.

**Section 2a. Required Vaccines:** dates of each valid dose are required (if TWIS printout has errors, write in and initial corrections).

**Additional columns of required vaccine table (complete by hand):**

**Total Doses:** Write in total number of valid doses of each vaccine given.

**Diagnosed:** Use if clinician diagnosed varicella illness. Year (YY) of diagnosis required.

**+Serology:** Accepted for hepatitis B or A, MMR and varicella. Year (YY) of test required.

**History:** Use if parent provides credible history of varicella illness. Year (YY) of disease required.

**Medical Exemption:** Mark an X if a specific vaccine is medically contraindicated (valid only with a physician or Health Department signature). The medical reason does not need to be provided.

**Section 2b. Recommended Vaccines (optional):** Dates *not* required, for information only.

**Section 3. Provider Assessment options:** *Certificate is not valid if Section 3 is incorrect or blank.*

**Box A) Temporary Certificate – Expires [1 month after next catch up dose due]:** Use *only* if a child is behind schedule on *required* vaccines. Give as many catch-up doses as possible, writing in the expiration date *1 month after* the next catch-up dose(s) is (are) due. A new certificate should be issued at each catch-up visit until required vaccinations are completed.

**Box B) Up to Date for Child Care Entry and <18 Months of Age:** Use when the child is younger than 18 months and age-appropriately vaccinated, but has not completed requirements. Depending on the schedule used by the healthcare provider, a child should complete requirements (Box C) between 12 and 18 months of age. Certificates with Box B marked are only valid *until* age 19 months: before then the parent or guardian must provide the child care facility with an updated certificate showing the child is complete (Box C). If a child enrolling at 12-18 months is complete, use Box C.

**Box C) Complete for Child Care / Pre-School:** The child has completed all requirements for child care or pre-school / pre-K. Requirements are routinely completed between 12-18 months of age.

**Box D) Complete K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** The child is at least 4 years old and has completed all requirements for enrolling in Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

**\*Boxes C and D): Check both boxes** only if the child is at least 4 years old and has completed the requirements for pre-school (or pre-K) and Kindergarten.

**Box E): Complete 7<sup>th</sup> grade or higher:** Check only after Tdap booster dose given (typically at age 11-12 years) and varicella immunity verified before 7<sup>th</sup> grade entry (if child is a current student and already has a certificate on file, only the 7<sup>th</sup> grade requirements need to be included on this form).

**Section 4:** Printed name, address, phone and signature or stamped signature of the *qualified* provider and date of issue.

**Back Page of Official Certificate:** Reference for vaccine schedule, accepted minimum intervals/ages.

*Tennessee Department of Health Immunization Program: Last Updated May 31, 2011*