REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS
ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY SCHOOL

Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis

5 doses with 1 dose received ≥ 4 years of age if born on or after Sept. 15, 2003; **OR**

4 doses with 1 dose received ≥ 4 years of age if born after Sept. 15, 2000 but before Sept. 15, 2003; **OR**

3 doses with 1 dose received ≥ 4 years of age if born on or before Sept. 15, 2000; **AND**

1 dose of tetanus/diptheria/acellular pertussis - containing (Tdap) vaccine for applicants born on or after Sept. 15, 2000 upon entrance into 7th grade and above

Polio

4 doses with 1 dose received ≥ 4 years of age if born after Sept. 15, 2003; **OR**

3 doses with 1 dose received ≥ 4 years of age if born on or before Sept. 15, 2003

Measles/Rubella

2 doses with the first dose received ≥ 12 months of age, second dose no less than 28 days after the first dose

Hepatitis B

3 doses if born on or after July 1, 1994

Varicella

2 doses received ≥ 12 months of age if born on or after Sept. 15, 2003; **OR**

1 dose received ≥ 12 months of age if born on or after Sept. 15, 1997 but before Sept. 15, 2003; **OR**

A reliable history of natural disease

KEY:

> = greater than	< = less than
≥ = greater than or equal to	≤ = less than or equal to

IOWA Immunization Program

IMMUNIZE FOR A BETTER LIFE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

If you have questions regarding Iowa's immunization law, please call the Iowa Department of Public Health at:

1-800-831-6293

OR VISIT:

www.idph.state.ia.us/ImmTB/Immunization.aspx

IDPH Iowa Department of Public Health

IDPH 3/13

IOWA Immunization Program

IMMUNIZATION LAW & YOU

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REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS
LICENSED CHILDCARE

Less than 4 months of age

This chart contains the minimum requirements for participation in licensed child care. Routine vaccination begins at 2 months of age.

4 through 5 months of age

Diphtheria/ Tetanus/Pertussis			1 dose
Polio	1 dose	Hib	1 dose
Pneumococcal	1 dose		

6 through 11 months of age

Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis			2 doses
Polio	2 doses	Hib	2 doses
Pneumococcal	2 doses		

12 through 18 months of age

Diphtheria/ Tetanus/Pertussis	3 doses
Polio	2 doses
Hib	2 doses or 1 dose received ≥ 15 months of age
Pneumococcal	3 doses if received 1 or 2 doses < 12 months of age; 2 doses if received 1 dose > 12 months of age or has not received this vaccine before

19 through 23 months of age

Diphtheria/ Tetanus/Pertussis	4 doses
Polio	3 doses
Hib	3 doses with the final dose in the series ≥ 12 months of age, or 1 dose received ≥ 15 months of age
Pneumococcal	4 doses or 3 doses if received 1 or 2 doses < 12 months of age; or 2 doses if received 1 dose ≥ 12 months of age or has not received this vaccine before
Measles/Rubella	1 dose ≥ 12 months of age
Varicella	1 dose ≥ 12 months of age if born on or after Sept. 15, 1997, or a reliable history of natural disease

24 months of age and older

Diphtheria/ Tetanus/Pertussis	4 doses
Polio	3 doses
Hib	3 doses with the final dose in the series ≥ 12 months of age, or 1 dose received ≥ 15 months of age
Pneumococcal	4 doses if received 3 doses < 12 months of age; or 3 doses if received 2 doses < 12 months of age; or 2 doses if received 1 dose < 12 months of age or received 1 dose between 12 and 23 months of age; or 1 dose if received no doses < 24 months of age
Measles/Rubella	1 dose ≥ 12 months of age
Varicella	1 dose ≥ 12 months of age if born on or after Sept. 15, 1997, or a reliable history of natural disease

IOWA'S IMMUNIZATION LAW

This brochure outlines the minimum immunization requirements for a child to attend licensed child care and school in Iowa. These requirements are based on the recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and are minimum requirements to maintain a healthy child in group settings. Iowa's immunization requirements apply to ALL individuals attending licensed child care centers and schools in Iowa, including those who are home schooled.

Proof of Immunization

CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNIZATION

A Certificate of Immunization must be given to the licensed child care center or school the child will attend. To be valid, the Certificate of Immunization must include the name and birth date of the child, the dates required vaccines were received, and must be signed by a physician (MD or DO), physician's assistant, nurse, or certified medical assistant.

PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNIZATION

A child who has begun, but not completed, the required immunizations for their age may receive a Provisional Certificate of Immunization so they may attend licensed child care or school while they finish their required vaccinations. To be eligible for provisional enrollment, the child must receive at least one dose of each of the required vaccines for their age. The next dose of required vaccine should be given as soon as possible, but no longer than 60 days from the previous dose(s). If at the end of 60 days, the child has not received the next required dose(s) of vaccine, the child cannot attend licensed child care or school.

The Provisional Certificate of Immunization must be submitted to the licensed child care center or school the child attends while completing the required immunizations. After the child has received all the required immunizations, a Certificate of Immunization must be submitted to the licensed child care center or school. Students transferring from one U.S. school to another are eligible for provisional enrollment for 60 days to allow their immunization records to be transferred from the previous school.

MEDICAL EXEMPTION

A medical exemption may be granted if a health care provider believes immunization(s) would be harmful to the child or a member of the child's household. To be valid, the Certificate of Immunization Exemption must be complete with the name and birth date of the child and be signed by a physician (MD or DO), physician's assistant or nurse practitioner. The Certificate of Immunization Exemption must be submitted to the licensed child care center or school the child attends.

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION

A religious exemption may be granted if immunizations conflict with a religious belief and is not based on scientific, medical or personal opinion. To be valid, the Certificate of Immunization Exemption must be complete with the name and birth date of the child and signed by the individual or the child's parent or guardian, and must be notarized. The Certificate of Immunization Exemption must be submitted to the licensed child care center or school the child attends.

ENFORCEMENT

Students who do not provide a Certificate of Immunization, Provisional Certificate of Immunization, or Certificate of Immunization Exemption to the licensed child care center or school on the first day of school cannot attend.

SCHOOL RECORDS

Schools are required to keep the certificate(s) on file for three years after the transfer/graduation of the child, or provide the certificate(s) to the student upon graduation. If the child transfers to a different school, the previous school will assist in the transfer of the certificate(s).

Blank certificates are available from healthcare providers, schools, local public health agencies, or on the Iowa Department of Public Health web site at: www.idph.state.ia.us/ImmTB/Immunization.aspx and the Health Protection Clearinghouse by calling 1-888-398-9696.

IMMUNIZATION RECORDS

It is important to maintain immunization records in a safe place. Proof of immunizations may be necessary throughout life. The Iowa Department of Public Health does not maintain historical paper immunization records. However, immunization records can be entered into a permanent statewide electronic database called Iowa's Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS). IRIS contains a public record access feature in which parents or adults can search for their own or their child's immunization record at https://iris.iowa.gov. If records are not found, talk with your health care provider about entering your immunization record into IRIS.

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

The Iowa Department of Public Health rules do not apply to immunization requirements for colleges and universities. Contact the college or university directly for their specific immunization requirements.