



## Important Immunization Update

Dear Parent/Guardian,

February 6th, 2023

Recently, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) updated Wisconsin's administrative code (Wis. Admin. Code ch. DHS 144), which outlines immunization requirements for school entry. These significant changes will go into effect for school-age children at the start of the 2023-2024 school year.

Changes to Wisconsin's school-required immunizations will improve protection for children across the state by protecting them against vaccine-preventable illnesses, including meningitis. [View the full text of the changes.](#)

This change includes adding a [meningococcal vaccine](#), to the requirement for students entering **seventh grade, and a booster dose for students entering 12th grade**. Reminder, 7th-grade students are also required to receive their [Tdap](#) vaccine before the start of school.

If you are deciding to waive any or all immunizations for religious, health, and/or personal conviction reasons; an updated immunization waiver must be completed on the [Student Immunization Record](#) form. However, in the event of an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease, students with waivers may be excluded from school until the outbreak subsides.

**You are encouraged to have your child immunized well in advance of school starting in August to avoid the late summer rush at immunization clinics. To schedule immunizations, contact your doctor, clinic, or nearest public health department.**

Dodge County: 920-386-3670      Columbia County: 608-742-9250

You may view your child's immunization record from your computer on the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR). The WIR is a secure computerized data system that tracks immunizations given to people. The internet address is <http://dhfsWIR.org>. To obtain the dates of your child's immunizations, type in your child's name, social security number, or Medicaid number. In order to access your child's record, their social security number must be in the system. If it is not, contact your medical provider and ask that the number be put into the WIR so that you can access your child's immunization record. For a list of Wisconsin State required immunizations please click [here](#) or visit this link: <https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02395a.pdf>

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

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