

Immunization Requirements for Preschool and Childcare

Because children who attend child care are at greater risk of exposure to illness, Arizona state law requires that some immunizations be completed at the beginning of the age range listed on the recommended immunization schedule found at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules>. Exceptions, minimum intervals and a "catch up" schedule are on the back of this form.

At birth	Hep B #1 Note: Hep B #1 is the only shot babies under 2 months must have for childcare.			
2 months	DTaP #1	Polio #1	Hib #1	
4 months	DTaP #2	Polio #2	Hib #2	Hep B #2
6 months	DTaP #3	Hib #3 If Pedvax Hib or Comvax is used, the 3rd dose of Hib is not due until 12-15 months of age.		
12 months	Polio #3	Hep B #3 If Hep B #3 was given before 24 weeks of age, a 4th dose is needed.	MMR #1 Note: MMR and Varicella must be given on the same day or at least 28 days apart.	Varicella¹ #1 (Chicken Pox Vaccine) Note: MMR and Varicella must be given on the same day or at least 28 days apart.
15 months	DTaP #4	Hib #4 (Booster) Hib #4 is not needed if Hib #3 is given at/after 12 months of age. A Hib dose at/after 12 months is required for all children under 5 years. One Hib dose given at/after 15 months of age meets the Hib requirement regardless of the total number of Hib doses received.		
15 months to 2 years	Must have 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 1 Varicella ¹ , 3 Hep B and 3-4 Hib (with 1 dose on/after 1st birthday) or 1 Hib dose given at/after 15 months. (Hepatitis A is required for 1 through 5 year olds in Maricopa County only.)			
2 years to 3 years	Must have 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 1 Varicella ¹ , 3 Hep B and 3-4 Hib (with 1 dose on/after 1st birthday) or 1 Hib dose given at/after 15 months. (+2 doses of Hepatitis A in Maricopa County only.)			
3 years to 5 years	Must have 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 1 Varicella ¹ , 3 Hep B and 3-4 Hib (with 1 dose on/after 1st birthday) or 1 Hib dose given at/after 15 months. (+ 2 doses of Hepatitis A in Maricopa County only)			
5 years and older	At <u>kindergarten entry</u> must have 5 DTaP*, 4 Polio*, 2 MMR, 1 Varicella ¹ & 3 Hep B. (Hepatitis A is not required for kindergarten.) *Children who received DTaP #4 and/or Polio #3 on/after the 4th birthday do not need additional doses to enter kindergarten.			

¹ Children who have had Chicken Pox are not required to receive Varicella vaccine.

Exceptions and Additions To The Rules

Parents whose religious beliefs do not allow immunization must sign a **religious exemption** form. A **medical exemption** form must be signed by the child's doctor if there is lab evidence of immunity or a medical reason why the child cannot receive shots. A copy of the lab results must be kept on file to prove the child's immunity.

- A child who is missing shots required for his age can start childcare but must get a dose of each shot due within 15 days of enrollment *and* bring a copy of the shot record completed by the clinic to the child care setting. **After 15 days, the child may not attend without documentation of these shots.**

- **CATCH UP SCHEDULE** for children missing immunizations:

DTaP: The 2nd dose is due 1-2 months after the 1st dose; the 3rd dose is due 1-2 months after the 2nd dose; the 4th dose is due 6 months after the 3rd dose.

Polio: The 2nd dose is due 1-2 months after the 1st dose; the 3rd dose is due 1-2 months after the 2nd dose.

Hep B: The 2nd dose is due 1-2 months after the 1st dose; the 3rd dose is due 3-4 months after the 2nd dose. If Hep B #3 was given before 24 weeks of age, a 4th dose is needed.

Hib: If child is less than 1 year, doses are given 2 months apart. If child is at least 15 months old and less than 5 years, a single dose is needed to catch up.

MMR*: The 1st is required at 12 months of age. A 2nd dose is required for kindergarten entry.

Varicella*: The 1st is required at 12 months of age, unless the child has had chicken pox disease.

Hep A: Children 1 through 5 years of age in Maricopa County only are required to obtain dose #1 within 15 days of enrollment in child care, preschool or Head Start. Dose #2 is due 6 months after dose #1.

***Important note:** MMR and Varicella may be given on the same day. If they are not given on the same day, they must be separated by at least 28 days.

- Children who are missing required shots must stay on the above "catch up" schedule to attend childcare. A 15-day notice must be given to parents whose children fall behind. If they do not provide proof of shots after 15 days, the child must be excluded from care until proof is given.
- What **proof of immunization** is needed? Copies of shot records signed or stamped by the health care provider must be kept on file at the childcare facility.