**Immunizations**

**Immunization Requirement for School Entry:**

***Required Immunizations for School Attendance:***

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| **Name of Immunization** | **Number of Doses** |
| Diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis | * Five (5) Doses (Four (4) if the 4th dose was given after the 4thbirthday)
* A Tdap booster vaccine at eleven (11) or twelve (12) years old before beginning 6th grade
* If a Tdap booster was not given before entering 6th grade and has not been given since eleven (11) years of age, one (1) booster is required to enroll or register in any grade above 6th grade
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| Polio | Four (4) doses (three (3) doses if the 3rd was given on or after the 4thbirthday) |
| Measles/mumps/rubella | Two (2) doses  |
| Hib | Four (4) doses up to five (5) yrs. of age |
| PCV | Four (4) doses (Refer to catch-up schedule for children who have fallen behind on immunizations.) |
| Varicella | Two (2) doses  |

* Children entering school are required by Alabama Law (Code of Alabama 1975, δ16-30-4) to present a Certificate of Immunization (COI), formerly known as a “Blue Card."
* If a child has received all required vaccines and only needs a COI, the COI can be printed at the school by the school nurse.
* Children entering the 6th grade (ages 11 and 12) need the following vaccine: Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, and Pertussis).

**Religious Exemption:**

A parent seeking Religious Exemption must submit a written letter of objection based on religious tenets and practices of the student to the County Health Department in person. After the parent or guardian receives education counseling from the County Health Department, a Certificate of Religious Exemption will be issued from the County Health Department.

**Medical Exemption:**

A licensed healthcare provider can provide individual exemptions from the required immunizations or testing on a Certificate of Medical Exemption. The Certificate of Medical Exemptions is required to be on forms approved by the Alabama Department of Public Health and will be accepted in lieu of the Certificate of Immunization.

Contact Info:

* Call your school nurse for questions related to back-to-school vaccines.
* Call the Autauga County Health Department at (334) 361-3743 for questions related to exemptions or to schedule an appointment.

Online Resources:

* [Alabama Department of Public Health Immunization Info](https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/immunization/)
* [Alabama Immunization Law](https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/immunization/assets/schoolImmlaw.pdf)
* [CDC Child & Adolescent Immunization Schedule by Age](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/child-adolescent-age.html)

Events:

* School-Based "Health Hero" Optional Flu Vaccine Clinics are scheduled for November 10th, 2025. Contact your school nurse for details.