



**2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR SCHEDULE  
OF REQUIRED VACCINATIONS, SCREENINGS,  
AND IMMUNIZATIONS FOR SCHOOL ADMITTANCE**

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Pursuant to Regulation 61-8, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control has declared the following schedule of required vaccinations, screenings, and immunizations necessary for a child to be admitted to any public, private, or parochial school, grades five year old kindergarten through twelve (5K-12).

**Minimum Requirements**

Four (4) doses<sup>1</sup> of any combination of DTP, DT, DTP-Hib, DTaP, Td, or Tdap vaccine with at least one (1) dose received on or after the fourth birthday.

<sup>1</sup> This immunization requirement only applies to students entering five-year-old kindergarten, first, second, third, and fourth grades in school year 2008-2009. Students previously enrolled in grades 5 through 12 met the requirement as stated for the school year in which they entered school.

If the fourth dose of DTaP, DTP, or DT is administered before the fourth birthday, a booster dose is required at 4-6 years of age. The fifth dose is not required if the fourth dose was given on or after the fourth birthday. The minimum interval between DTaP dose #3 and #4 or #4 and #5 is six months.

Three (3) doses<sup>2</sup> of any combination of oral or inactivated Polio vaccine with at least one (1) dose received on or after the fourth birthday.

<sup>2</sup> If all four IPV doses are administered after 6 weeks of age and are all separated by at least 4 weeks, a fifth dose is not needed, even if the fourth dose was administered before 4 years of age.

Two (2) doses of Rubeola (Measles) vaccine with both doses received on or after the first birthday and separated by at least one month.

One (1) dose of Rubella (German Measles) vaccine received on or after the first birthday.

One (1) dose of Mumps vaccine received on or after the first birthday.

Three (3) doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.

One (1) dose of Varicella vaccine received on or after the first birthday or positive history of disease for all children admitted to kindergarten, first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. Two (2) doses of varicella vaccine, separated by at least one month, are required for unimmunized children 13 years of age and older who have no positive history of disease.

## **Exemptions**

Students may be exempt from these immunization requirements for the following reasons:

### 1. Medical Contraindication

An exemption from these immunization requirements due to a medical contraindication described on the South Carolina Certificate of Immunization, signed by an individual licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy, or his/her authorized representative, may be granted to a child when the physician or osteopath has determined that a particular vaccine(s) required by this schedule is not advisable for the child. If it is determined that this particular vaccine(s) is no longer contraindicated, the child will be required to have the vaccine(s). The temporary or permanent nature of this exemption shall be noted in the appropriate spaces on the South Carolina Certificate of Immunization (DHEC form 1148).

### 2. Religious Exemption

A South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption may be granted to any student whose parents, parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis signs the appropriate section of the South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption stating they are members of a recognized religious denomination in which the tenets and practices of the religious denomination conflict with immunizations.

### 3. Special Exemptions

A South Carolina Certificate of Special Exemption, signed by the school principal or his/her authorized representative, may be issued to transfer students while awaiting arrival of medical records from their former area of residence or to other students who have been unable to secure immunizations or documentation of immunizations already received. A South Carolina Certificate of Special Exemption may be issued only once and shall be valid for only thirty (30) calendar days from the date of enrollment. At the expiration of this special exemption, the student must present a valid South Carolina Certificate of Immunization or a valid South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption.

The South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption may be obtained from the Department of Health and Environmental Control. The Department of Health and Environmental Control also provides blank forms of the South Carolina Certificate of Immunization to immunization providers, and blank forms of the South Carolina Certificate of Special Exemption to schools.

**61-8.08**

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