

# West Virginia Immunization Requirements for 7<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Graders

Beginning in 2012-2013, state law and rules<sup>1</sup> require that all children entering school in West Virginia in grades 7 and 12 must show proof of immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, and meningococcal disease unless properly medically exempted<sup>2</sup>. The table below outlines immunization requirements as most commonly met.<sup>3</sup> The West Virginia Bureau for Public Health recommends that vaccine doses administered 4 days or fewer before the minimum interval or age should be considered valid.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade School Entry Requirement

| Vaccine   | Requirement                                      | Provisional Enrollment                 | Additional Information |
|---|--|--|------------------------|
| Tdap<br>(tetanus, diphtheria,<br>acellular pertussis) | Proof of booster<br>dose of Tdap vaccine         | No provisional<br>enrollment permitted |                        |
| MCV4<br>(meningococcal / meningitis)                  | Proof of 1 <sup>st</sup> dose of<br>MCV4 vaccine | No provisional<br>enrollment permitted |                        |

## 12<sup>th</sup> Grade School Entry Requirement

| Vaccine   | Requirement   | Provisional Enrollment                 | Additional Information   |
|---|---|--|--|
| Tdap<br>(tetanus, diphtheria,<br>acellular pertussis) | Proof of booster<br>dose of Tdap vaccine                            | No provisional<br>enrollment permitted |  |
| MCV4<br>(meningococcal / meningitis)                  | One or two doses<br>required<br><b>(See additional information)</b> | No provisional<br>enrollment permitted | <b>Second dose of MCV4 is<br/>indicated and required <u>IF</u> the<br/>first dose was received before<br/>the 16<sup>th</sup> birthday</b> |

<sup>1</sup> See WV Code §16-3-4 and 64CSR95 for further information.

<sup>2</sup> Medical exemptions must be requested by a physician who has treated or examined the child and be reviewed and approved by the local health officer in the county in which the child attends school. Requests for exemptions must be based on current standards of immunization practice and include the following information: the vaccine(s) being exempted, the specific medical reason for the exemption, whether the exemption is temporary or permanent, and, if temporary, when the exemption should be reevaluated. West Virginia State Law does not allow for non-medical exemptions to immunization requirements.

<sup>3</sup> Occasionally, based on product used or the age at which a child is being immunized, deviations from these requirements may be acceptable. Any deviation must be consistent with applicable, age appropriate immunization schedules found at <http://www.cdc.gov> and searching under "Immunization Schedules".