

Topic: New Requirements for Fall 2010 - Back to School Immunizations – Start NOW!

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services recently revised the Immunization Requirements for School Children. Effective beginning the 2010-2011 school year the following NEW requirements will be implemented: Second dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine for all children entering Kindergarten and Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccine will be required for all incoming eighth (8th) grade students if the child has completed the recommended childhood DTap/DTP vaccination series and has not received a Td booster within the past two (2) years.

Families with health insurance are encouraged to obtain necessary vaccinations from their private health care provider; however, no child is turned away. For those with private insurance we ask for a donation equal to your co-pay for an office visit, for the uninsured we also ask for a donation. For children on the Medicaid or MC+ program there is no charge for immunizations.

Avoid the rush! There will be a high demand for appointment slots this year with the new requirements. The schedule fills up quickly so call early to schedule an appointment. It is not too soon to get your child's immunizations now so they are ready for school this fall. To help busy parents – who can't get off work and need someone else to bring their children into the office for immunizations, the department offers a "Parent Consent Authorization Form" found at www.warrencountyhealth.org.

Immunizations are available by *appointment only*. You must bring your child's immunization records when you come for your appointment. If you have lost or misplaced your child's records we suggest you contact your child's physician or obtain a copy of their school immunization record. A complete list of vaccination requirements is available online at www.warrencountyhealth.com