



Information about Becoming Compliant with Vermont's Child Care and School Immunization Rule

- How your child/student can catch up with missing immunizations

Vermont's Immunization Rule, adopted pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 1123, requires that before entry, children/students must have all required immunizations unless exempt for medical or religious reasons. Effective July 1, 2016 the exemption for philosophic reasons is no longer an option. There is no phase-in period or grandfathering of existing prior year philosophic exemptions.

Children/students in the process of receiving all required vaccines may be provisionally admitted without an exemption if the child/student has a scheduled appointment to receive the missing vaccine(s), consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) catch-up immunization schedule.

The Provisional Admittance form must be signed by a health care provider and submitted by the parent/guardian to the child care/school upon entry. The period of provisional admittance is in accordance with the CDC's catch-up immunization schedule, but may not exceed six months. Long term provisional admittance is not allowed.

Your school nurse or administrator, health care provider, or Health Dept liaison can help you determine the timing and number of vaccine doses needed.

The catch-up schedule for children/students starting late or missing doses of vaccine is specific to the age at which vaccination begins, the history of any previously received doses, and follows guidance for catch-up timing from the CDC. Shots received years ago count and do not need to be repeated. For some vaccines the recommendation will be for fewer doses than those given routinely to infants. Alternate or delayed vaccination schedules are not acceptable.

More information about CDC's catch up immunization schedule, provisional admittance, medical and religious exemption forms are on the Department of Health website:

<http://healthvermont.gov/hc/imm/schoolentry.aspx>