



## A Special Message to Parents:

Are your teenager's vaccinations up-to date?

### Did You Know...?

- Vaccinations can protect your teen from serious diseases;
- Your teen may need vaccinations against many diseases to get a job or get into college;
- VFC eligible children may receive vaccinations through 18 years of age;
- Vaccines are usually more expensive for children over 18 years of age;
- Once your child is 19 years of age and considered an adult, insurance may not cover vaccinations.

For more information, contact your health care provider, public health department, pharmacy, or the Immunization Hot line at:

1-800-275-0659

or

[www.immunize.utah.gov](http://www.immunize.utah.gov)

# VACCINATE BEFORE YOU GRADUATE



The best way to stay healthy  
down the road.



Utah Department of  
**Health & Human Services**  
Population Health

Adapted from the Rhode Island Department of Health Immunization Program

Form 10-04-05 Rev. 11/25



# What is Vaccinate Before You Graduate?

Vaccinate Before You Graduate provides vaccination information to students and their parents in Utah middle and high schools. Vaccinating teens while they are still in school can get them caught up on their shots before getting a job, going to college or traveling abroad. These vaccinations can protect teens against many diseases that can cause serious health problems. Some Utah middle and high schools may provide immunizations at school. Check with the school nurse for more information.

## What should you do to ensure your teen is fully immunized?

Check your teen's vaccination records or consult a doctor to ensure they have all the recommended vaccines. If your teen needs vaccinations, contact your primary healthcare provider, school nurse, pharmacy, or local health department.

Children from birth through age 18 may qualify for the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program if they are uninsured, on Medicaid, American Indian/Alaskan Native, or have insurance that does not cover vaccines. VFC eligible children or teens may be asked to pay a small fee to receive their vaccines. This fee may be waived if they are unable to pay. All Utah local health departments, community health centers, and some private clinics participate in the VFC program.

## What vaccinations are recommended for teens?

Utah's Immunization Rule requires all students to receive certain vaccines before starting school. Your teen may already have received some of these vaccines but may need a booster or additional doses to stay protected.

The following vaccinations are recommended or required:

- **Hepatitis A (Hep A)**  
2 doses of hepatitis A or history of disease are required for all students in Utah schools.
- **Hepatitis B (Hep B)**  
3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine are required for all students in Utah schools.
- **Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)**  
2 doses of MMR vaccine or history of disease are required for all students in Utah schools.
- **COVID-19**  
A yearly COVID-19 vaccine is recommended for all teens.
- **Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)**  
1 dose of Tdap vaccine is required for students entering seventh through twelfth grade entry in Utah schools, followed by Td or Tdap booster doses every 10 years.

### • Varicella (Chickenpox)

2 doses of chickenpox vaccine or history of disease are required for all students in Utah schools.

### • Meningococcal

There are two types of meningococcal vaccines: Meningococcal conjugate (MenACWY) and Meningococcal B.

- **Meningococcal Conjugate (MenACWY) Vaccine:** 1 dose is required for students entering 7th through 12th grade in Utah schools. A booster dose is recommended at age 16. Teens who received the first dose between ages 13 through 15 years will need a one-time booster dose between ages of 16 through 18 years. Teens who receive their first dose between 16 through 18 years of age only need one dose of MenACWY vaccine.
- **Meningococcal B Vaccine:** Based on individual health care provider decision 2 or 3 (depending on brand) doses is recommended for adolescents 16- 23 (preferably 16-18) years not at increased risk for bacterial meningitis infection.

### • Influenza (Flu)

A yearly flu vaccine is recommended for all teens.

### • Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

Depending on age at initial vaccination, 2 or 3 doses are recommended for all adolescents aged 11-12 years (can start at age 9 years) and through age 18 years if not previously adequately vaccinated.

### • Pneumococcal

A single dose of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine is recommended for teens with serious diseases.

### • Polio

4 doses are required for all students in Utah schools. Dose 4 is not necessary if last dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose.

- **Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP):** To enroll in seventh through twelfth grade in Utah, all teens must have received the appropriate number of DTaP doses during childhood, following Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations. Teens who were never vaccinated or are not fully vaccinated must receive the appropriate number of tetanus, diphtheria (Td), or Tdap doses in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) catch-up immunization schedule and ACIP guidelines.