



# THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

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### Nurses Rank #1 Most Trusted Profession for 15<sup>th</sup> Year in a Row

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American public has again ranked nurses as the professionals with the highest honesty and ethical standards, according to a Gallup poll released today. The [annual poll](#) marks the 15<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that nurses have been ranked the most trusted out of a wide spectrum of professions, including medical doctors and police officers.

“Every day, millions of nurses are on the front lines in the fight to improve the health of all Americans,” said Pamela F. Cipriano, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, president of the [American Nurses Association](#). “Whether nurses are by the bedside or in the board room, we continue to be a trusted resource and a vital part of our nation’s health care system. This poll reflects the trust the public has in us, and we’ll continue to work hard to keep that trust.”

According to the poll, 84 percent of Americans rated nurses’ honesty and ethical standards as “very high” or “high.” The next closest profession, pharmacists, was rated 17 percentage points behind nursing.

“Trust plays an important role in the relationship between nurses and the patients we serve,” said Cipriano. “ANA encourages nurses to draw on that trust to engage with consumers to improve their health and to advocate for patients and for the quality of care in this country. Additionally, I challenge those charged with making health policy at the facility, local, state and national levels, to include the trusted voice of nurses at the decision-making table. Based on this survey, no other profession is held in as high regard by the public. And given nursing’s frontline perspective on health care delivery, we offer a point of view that is unmatched.”

In 2017, ANA will continue its longstanding efforts to advocate for health system reform. The association is committed to working with the new administration and Congress to advance policy that aligns with its four principles for health system reform: access to care, affordable and equitable care, quality of care and workforce.

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*The [American Nurses Association \(ANA\)](#) is the premier organization representing the interests of the nation’s 3.6 million registered nurses. ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting a safe and ethical work environment, bolstering the health and wellness of nurses, and advocating on health care issues that affect nurses and the public. ANA is at the forefront of improving the quality of health care for all. For more information, visit [www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org).*

8515 Georgia Ave., Suite 400  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
[www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org)



## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ENROLLED STUDENTS IN CONNECTICUT SCHOOLS 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR



#### PRESCHOOL

DTaP:	4 doses (by 18 months for programs with children 18 months of age)
Polio:	3 doses (by 18 months for programs with children 18 months of age)
MMR:	1 dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday
Hep B:	3 doses, last one on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella:	1 dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday or verification of disease
Hib:	1 dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday
Pneumococcal:	1 dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday
Influenza:	1 dose administered each year between August 1 <sup>st</sup> -December 31 <sup>st</sup> (2 doses separated by at least 28 days required for those receiving flu for the first time)
Hepatitis A:	2 doses given six calendar months apart, 1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday

#### KINDERGARTEN

DTaP:	At least 4 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday
Polio:	At least 3 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday
MMR:	2 doses separated by at least 28 days, 1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday
Hep B:	3 doses, last dose on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella:	2 doses separated by at least 3 months-1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday, or verification of disease
Hib:	1 dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday for children less than 5 years old
Pneumococcal:	1 dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday for children less than 5 years old
Hepatitis A:	2 doses given six calendar months apart, 1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday

#### GRADES 1-5

DTaP/Td:	At least 4 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday. Students who start the series at age 7 or older only need a total of 3 doses.
Polio:	At least 3 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday
MMR:	2 doses separated by at least 28 days, 1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday
Hep B:	3 doses, last dose on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella:	2 doses separated by at least 3 months-1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday, or verification of disease
Hepatitis A:	2 doses given six calendar months apart, 1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday

#### GRADE 6

DTaP/Td:	At least 4 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday. Students who start the series at age 7 or older only need a total of 3 doses.
Polio:	At least 3 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday
MMR:	2 doses separated by at least 28 days, 1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday
Hep B:	3 doses, last dose on or after 24 weeks
Varicella:	2 doses separated by at least 3 months-1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday, or verification of disease

Revised 12/12/2016

## 2017 - 2018 Immunization Requirements, cont'd

### GRADES 7-12

Tdap/Td:	1 dose for students who have completed their primary DTaP series. Students who start the series at age 7 or older only need a total of 3 doses of tetanus-diphtheria containing vaccine, one of which must be Tdap
Polio:	At least 3 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday
MMR:	2 doses separated by at least 28 days, 1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday
Meningococcal:	1 dose
Hep B:	3 doses, last dose on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella:	2 doses separated by at least 3 months-1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday, or verification of disease

- DTaP vaccine is not given on or after the 7<sup>th</sup> birthday and may be given for all doses in the primary series.
- Tdap can be given in lieu of Td vaccine for children 7 years and older unless contraindicated. Tdap is only licensed for one dose.
- Hib is not required for children 5 years of age or older.
- Pneumococcal is required for all Pre-K and K students less than 5 years of age.
- Hep A requirement for school year 2017-18 applies to all Pre-K, K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders born 1/1/07 or later.
- Hep B requirement for school year 2017-2018 applies to all students in grades K-12.  
Spacing intervals for a valid Hep B series: at least 4 weeks between doses 1 and 2; 8 weeks between doses 2 and 3; at least 16 weeks between doses 1 and 3; dose 3 should not be given before 24 weeks of age.
- Second MMR for school year 2017-2018 applies to all students in grades K-12.
- Meningococcal Conjugate requirement for school year 2017-18 applies to all students in grades 7-12
- Tdap requirement for school year 2017-18 applies to all students in grades 7-12
- If two live virus vaccines (MMR, Varicella, MMRV, Intra-nasal Influenza) are not administered on the same day, they must be separated by at least 28 days (there is no 4 day grace period for live virus vaccines). If they are not separated by at least 28 days, the vaccine administered second must be repeated.
- Lab confirmation of immunity is only acceptable for Hep A, Hep B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Varicella.
- **VERIFICATION OF VARICELLA DISEASE:** Confirmation in writing by a MD, PA, or APRN that the child has a previous history of disease, based on family or medical history.
- For the full legal requirements for school entry visit [www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3136&Q=467374&PM=1](http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3136&Q=467374&PM=1)
- If you are unsure if a child is in compliance, please call the Immunization Program at (860) 509-7929.

#### **New Entrant Definition:**

\*New entrants are any students who are new to the school district, including all preschoolers and all students coming in from Connecticut private, parochial and charter schools located in the same or another community. **All pre-schoolers, as well as all students entering kindergarten, including those repeating kindergarten, and those moving from any public or private pre-school program, even in the same school district, are considered new entrants.** The one exception is students returning from private approved special education placements—they are not considered new entrants.

#### **Commonly Administered Vaccines:**

<u>Vaccine:</u>	<u>Brand Name:</u>	<u>Vaccine:</u>	<u>Brand Name:</u>
DTaP-IPV-Hib	Pentacel	MMRV	ProQuad
DTaP-HIB	TriHibit	PCV7	Prennar
HIB-Hep B	Comvax	PCV13	Prennar 13
DTaP-IPV-Hep B	Pediarix	DTaP-IPV	Kinrix
Hepatitis A	Havrix, Vaqta	Influenza	Fluzone, FluMist, Fluviron, Fluairix, FluLaval



## Connecticut State Department of Public Health (DPH) School Flu Immunization Requirement for PreK Students: Question and Answer (Q+A)

The Connecticut immunization regulation requires at a minimum one dose of influenza vaccine for school entry, each year between August 1st and December 31, for all children aged 24 months - 4 years (59 months). For more information on influenza vaccines, visit the State Department of Public Health's Web site at [www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/).

**Q:** Do all children aged 24 months - 4 years (59 months) who have not received a flu vaccine by December 31st need to be excluded from school?

**A:** Children do not have to be excluded from school if the following conditions are met:

- the school has received a statement signed by the child's HCP indicating that the child has an appointment to receive the required immunization (this is considered "immunization in progress"). Continued enrollment in school for more than thirty days after the named immunization appointment shall be contingent on the school receiving written documentation from the HCP stating either: that the named appointment was kept and the child received the scheduled immunizations, or that the child was unable to receive the scheduled immunizations for medical reasons and a new appointment date is named;
- the school has received a statement signed and dated by the child's HCP indicating that the child has a medical contraindication to immunization;
- the school has received a written statement that immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs and practices of the child or the parent of such child. Such statement shall be signed by the child's parent.

**Q:** How should a school enforce the flu vaccine regulation for those children who have not received the flu shot by December 31st?

**A:** Children who have not received the flu vaccine by December 31st must be excluded from school for the duration of influenza season (through March 31st) or until they receive at least one dose of the influenza vaccine.

**Q:** Where can a family go to get the flu vaccine if the pediatrician does not have any more flu vaccine?

**A:** If a HCP cannot provide the flu vaccine within the given time frame of August 1 - December 31st, documentation stating that the child has an appointment to receive the flu vaccine from his or her HCP would be acceptable.

**Q:** How is the 'flu season' defined?

**A:** Influenza season generally occurs during November through the end of March.

**Q:** Is flu vaccine required after March?

**A:** No, students enrolling in school after March 31st are not required to get vaccinated but flu season may extend until May and therefore getting a flu vaccine even late in the season is still protective.

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Immunization Requirements, cont'd

### Nondiscrimination Statement

*The State of Connecticut Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons and does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries regarding the Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Affirmative Action Administrator, State of Connecticut Department of Education, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1543, 860-807-2071.*