

Tdap School Requirement Frequently Asked Questions

What is Tdap?

Tdap is a vaccine that can protect teens and adults against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough). There are two different Tdap vaccines:

Vaccine	Who is the vaccine licensed for?
Boostrix	10-18 year olds
Adacel	11-64 year olds

Who should get Tdap?

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends Tdap for:

- Children ages 11 & 12 years.
- Adults up to age 64 - *Replace 1 tetanus booster (Td) with 1 dose Tdap*
- Adults who care for or have contact with infants, such as:
 - Post-partum parents
 - Grandparents
 - Child care providers
 - Health-care workers

What is the Tdap school requirement?

As of July 1, 2007, children who are attending 6th grade, and are at least 11 years old, are required to show proof of Tdap vaccination if it has been five years since receiving a tetanus-containing vaccine (DTaP, DT, or Td).

How will the Tdap requirement be implemented?

Each school year, from 2007-2013, the Tdap requirement will expand to include an additional grade. For example, Tdap will be required for students attending 6th and 7th grade during the 2008-2009 school year and 6th, 7th, and 8th grade in 2009-2010. The requirement will continue to expand until 2013, when it will include students attending 6th through 12th grade.

What kind of documentation is acceptable?

Department of Health-approved Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) form (including CIS forms generated from the CHILD Profile Immunization Registry) completed with parent/guardian signature and:

- date of vaccination, or
- medical, religious, or personal exemption.

What if a student received a tetanus-containing vaccine less than 5 years ago?

This student is considered complete. The requirement applies to 6th grade students that received their last tetanus-containing vaccine 5 or more years ago.

What if you don't know whether a student had a Td vaccine since their school entry booster (DTaP)?

Accept the school entry booster as the student's last tetanus-containing vaccine unless the parent or the CHILD Profile Immunization Registry lists a more recent Td vaccination.