

Immunization Guidelines for Florida Schools, Child Care Facilities, and Family Day Care Homes:

Utilize New Immunization Guidelines

The Bureau of Immunization is pleased to announce the release of the revised *Immunization Guidelines for Florida Schools, Child Care Facilities, and Family Day Care Homes, effective July 2008* and incorporated by reference in amended Rule 64D-3.046, Florida Administrative Code, which became effective July 28, 2008.

The Guidelines are located at the Bureau of Immunization website at: <http://www.immunizeflorida.org/schoolguide.pdf> . Due to budget constraints, the Bureau has not yet determined if they can print a supply for the distribution center and will let you know the outcome.

The *Florida Certification of Immunization* (Form 680) has also been updated. While the updated manual DH 680 is going through the order process, providers using Florida SHOTS can search for and print out certified 680s. DOH Rule 64D-3.046, F.A.C. is attached and may be accessed at: <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=64D-3.046> and <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/readFile.asp?sid=0&tid=5891506&type=1&file=64D-3.046.doc>. An update will be sent when the paper DH 680 are available in the Distribution Center.

The updated DH Form 680 provides a selection for either Code 1 (K to 12) or Code 8 (7th Grade requirement).

The guidelines are updated only when there is a legislative or major change. The guidelines provide technical assistance for healthcare providers, schools, childcare facility operators, family daycare home operators, school health personnel, and county health department personnel regarding:

1. Immunization requirements
2. Clarifications/exceptions to immunization requirements with respect to certain vaccines
3. Florida Certification of Immunization (DH 680), including Parts A, B, and C and the electronic signature
DH 680 from Florida SHOTS
4. Religious Exemption from Immunization (DH 681)
5. Reporting requirements
6. Special conditions for compliance
7. Disease Control
8. Immunization requirement for public assistance eligibility
9. Confidentiality

Effective school year 2008/2009:

Children entering, attending or transferring to kindergarten through grade 12 in Florida schools will be required to have documentation of a second dose of mumps and rubella in addition to the present requirement of 2 measles.

A second dose of varicella will be required for children entering, attending or transferring to kindergarten.

There has been some confusion regarding Temporary Medical Exemptions (TMEs). A number of healthcare providers have been providing a TME to children entering Kindergarten lasting until they are due to enter 7th grade. *A TME should be completed **only** if a child is not fully immunized for their current school grade based on the proper spacing of vaccines. For more information, please refer to the Immunization Guidelines at: (<http://www.immunizeflorida.org/schoolguide.pdf>).*

Please note that beginning with the 2009- 2010 school year, documentation of a tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis-containing vaccine (Tdap) will be required for students entering/attending 7th grade instead of tetanus-diphtheria.

Please widely distribute this information and forward the attached electronic guidelines to all staff, colleagues, members, coalitions, and partners with an interest in the Florida immunization guidelines. Please display this information prominently on your website. If you have any questions or comments concerning the revised guidelines, please contact Phyllis Yambor, R.N., Bureau of Immunization, at (850) 245-4342.