



COUNTY OF POLK
Health Department
www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health

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**Parents/Guardians of Students Entering
7th and 12th Grade in the 2021 – 2022 School Year!**

Schedule your child's required vaccines NOW!

By Iowa Law, all students entering or transferring into 7th grade and born after September 15, 2004 are required to show vaccine documentation of having received the meningococcal vaccine. All students entering or transferring into the 12th grade and born after September 15, 1999, will need to show vaccine documentation of two doses of the meningococcal vaccine or one dose if received when the child was 16 years of age or older.

Meningococcal disease is a very serious, potentially, life threatening disease. The meningococcal vaccine is 85 - 100 percent effective at preventing infection from the subtypes of meningococcus found in the vaccine.

Please check your child's immunization records. By law, if your 7th grader or 12th grader is not fully immunized for meningitis, they will not be allowed to attend school, sports and school-related activities starting day 1 of the 2021 – 2022 school year. If they have not had the required vaccine, please set up an appointment with their doctor to get their vaccines up-to-date as soon as possible and before the 2021 – 2022 school year.

Spring break is a perfect opportunity to get your child caught up on the meningitis vaccine and all other required and recommended vaccines. During the summer, back-to-school and sports physicals fill up fast and your child may not be able to see their provider in time. Please reach out to your school nurse if you have questions regarding health insurance or do not have a doctor.

Thank you.
Sincerely,

Helen Eddy
Polk County Health Department Director

Administration Clinical Services Community Health Education
Disease Prevention Outreach Health Planning Infectious Disease Laboratory