

Form 3231 (Certificate of Immunization)

Georgia Law requires children attending school (Kindergarten – 12th grade) to be age appropriately immunized with all the required vaccines at the time of first entry in school. A new entrant is a child entering a school in Georgia for the first time or entering after having been absent from a Georgia school for more than 12 months or one school year. All students, regardless of grade and including foreign exchange students, **must have the Georgia Department of Human Resources Form 3231 immunization certificate marked “Complete for School”**.

All students born on or after January 1, 2002 and entering, advancing or transferring into 7th grade in Georgia need proof of an adolescent pertussis (whooping cough) booster vaccination (called “Tdap”) and an adolescent meningococcal vaccination (MCV4). Proof of both vaccinations **must be documented on the Georgia Immunization Certificate (Form 3231)**.

All public and private schools are affected by the law, including but not limited to:

- Charter schools
- Community schools
- Juvenile court schools
- Other alternative school settings (excluding homeschool)

Students who are affected by the law include but are not limited to:

- International or exchange students
- Children in foster care
- Homeless students
- Students transferring from outside of Georgia to a school in Georgia at any time during the school year
- Students whose parent or guardian serves in the United States Military

Students who are NOT affected but who are still strongly recommended to receive Tdap and meningococcal vaccination include those

- Home school students

Students transferring into 8th through 12th grades (from either out of state or within Georgia) are subject to the 7th grade vaccination requirements. All new entrants are subject to the Tdap and meningococcal vaccination requirements. A new entrant is defined as: any child entering any school in Georgia for the first time or entering after having been absent from a Georgia school for more than twelve months or one school year.

Parents or guardians for entering 8th through 12th grade students that have not yet met the requirement, but were mistakenly thought to have done so, will be notified that the student is required to meet the Tdap and meningococcal vaccination requirement and, after 30 school days from the notification, may be excluded until the requirement is met. (O.C.G.A § 20-2-771 (b))