

New Required Immunization:

Meningococcal Vaccine

7th and 12th Grade

The Iowa Department of Public Health has made changes to the Iowa Immunization law for the start of the 2017/18 school year. This change requires that all students entering 7th and 12th grade have a Meningococcal vaccine booster before school starts this fall.

Meningococcal disease is a life threatening illness that is caused by bacteria that infects the brain, blood, and spinal cord. It easily spreads in crowded settings. The vaccine will be required prior to both the 7th and 12th grades.

All students entering 12th grade must have proof of having the Meningococcal vaccine **before school starts in August**, unless the student has a Certificate of Immunization Exemption.

All students entering 7th grade must have proof of having both the Meningococcal and the Tdap vaccines **before school starts in August**, unless the student has a Certificate of Immunization Exemption.

There will be no grace/extension period for the implementation of this requirement.