

# News Release: NEW IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS NOW IN EFFECT FOR STUDENTS ENTERING KINDERGARTEN AND GRADE 7

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For Immediate Release

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**UPPER MARLBORO, MD** –Immunization requirements in the State of Maryland have changed for the 2014-2015 school year for students entering Kindergarten and Grade 7.

As a result, all Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) students who will be enrolling in kindergarten must receive two (2) doses of the Chickenpox vaccine, which is also known as the Varicella vaccine.

All students who will be enrolling in Grade 7 are required to receive a single dose of the TDaP (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) vaccine and a single dose of the Meningococcal (Meningitis) vaccine.

Students have 20 calendar days after the start of the 2014-2015 school year to present medical verification of receiving the required vaccinations. If documentation is not presented the student will not be allowed to attend school until the required records have been provided.

If you have any further questions about immunization requirements for your child, please contact your child's pediatrician, the School Nurse at your child's school or the PGCPS Office of School Health Policy, Services and Innovation at 301-749-4722.

If your child does not have health insurance please contact the Prince George's County Health Department at 301-883-7879 or 1-888-561-4049 to make an appointment and obtain additional information regarding immunizations available on a sliding scale.

Additionally, area pharmacies and store clinics are offering these immunizations that may be covered by health insurance, offered at full price or on a sliding scale.

The following health care providers will see children without insurance:

Children's Hospital – 201-476-5000

Mary's Center – 202-545-2095

Greater Baden Medical Services at the following three locations:

Oxon Hill - 301-686-1171

Capitol Heights - 240-492-2500

Brandywine - 301-599-0460

To view a flyer regarding the new vaccine requirements, click **here** (<http://www1.pgcps.org/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=193095>). To view this flyer in Spanish, click **here** (<http://www1.pgcps.org/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=193096>).

To view the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's vaccine requirements for all children, click **here** ([http://phpa.dhmdh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/IMMUN/Shared%20Documents/Vaccine-Requirements\\_School-Year\\_2014-2015.pdf](http://phpa.dhmdh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/IMMUN/Shared%20Documents/Vaccine-Requirements_School-Year_2014-2015.pdf)).

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Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS), one of the nation's 20th largest school districts, has 201 schools and centers, more than 133,000 students and nearly 20,000 employees. The school system serves a diverse student population from urban, suburban and rural communities located in the Washington, DC suburbs. PGCPS is nationally recognized for college and career-readiness programs that provide students with unique learning opportunities, including dual enrollment and language immersion.

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