

PROOF OF IMMUNIZATION IS A CONDITION FOR ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

- **Why does New Brunswick have immunization requirements for admission to public schools?**
 - According to the *Public Health Act*, the school principal shall ensure that proof of immunization for children entering New Brunswick schools for the first time is obtained.
 - The goal of immunization is to minimize the risk of vaccine-preventable diseases and to ensure that students & staff are protected during an outbreak.
 - There are some children who are especially vulnerable to complications of vaccine preventable diseases due to the inability to receive vaccines or medical conditions that put them at increased risk (e.g. cancer).
- **Why is the collection of immunization records important for the school?**
 - The collection of immunization records of students is needed in order to assess the immunization status of students. For the protection of students and others, unimmunized or vulnerable students may need to be excluded from school in the event of an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease.
 - When needed, it is also an opportunity to inform the parents to have their child's immunization status updated.
- **What vaccines do children require for school?**
 - Children must receive vaccines that protect against the following diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, pertussis (whooping cough), measles, rubella, mumps, varicella (chicken pox), and meningococcal (meningitis).

SCHOOL'S ROLE IN IMMUNIZATIONS FOR SCHOOL ENTRY

- **What is Policy 706?**
 - Policy 706 is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development policy which applies to all New Brunswick public schools. The intent of this policy is to provide direction regarding the collection and management of immunization data as a condition for admission to the public school system. <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/ed/pdf/K12/policies-politiques/e/706A.pdf>
- **What is the school staffs' role?**
 - At registration, district/school staff inform parents that proof of immunization is required for school admission.
 - District/School staff are responsible for confirming that proof of immunization has been received.

- Each month, the name of any students entering NB schools for the first time, and for whom immunization records have been submitted that month, must be reported to the local public health office.

The school principal must:

- Keep a list of children who have not been immunized and a list of the children whose parents have provided a medical exemption or a written objection (Refer to Appendix A: Lists of students for school principal). These lists can determine who needs exclusion in the event of a possible outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease.

- **What is the Public Health Nurse’s role?**

- To assess the student’s immunization status;
- To provide a list of students with incomplete immunization record or parental/ medical exemption to the schools principal.

- **What information is required on the proof of immunization?**

- The following information must be legible on photocopies of immunization records:
 - Child’s name; date of birth; Medicare number
 - Immunization provider’s signatures
 - Vaccines and dates of administration
- If the immunization record is copied onto 2 pages, ensure that the child’s name is on both pages (in the event the pages are separated).
- Any updated copies of the immunization record should be added with the existing copy.
- The following are examples of a student’s New Brunswick immunization record

New Brunswick		IMMUNIZATION RECORD/FICHE D'IMMUNISATION		Health and Wellness	Santé et Bien-être
Individual Information/Information de la personne					
Name/Nom:	BOUBOU, HONEY	Medicare No./N° d'ass-mal:			
Date of Birth/ Date de naissance:	2015-03-10				
Immunization Information/Information d'immunisation					
Date Immunised/ Date de l'immunisation	Age Immunised/ Âge lors de l'immunisation (YYY mm dd/ aaa mm jj)	Vaccinated Against/Vacciné contre	Trade Name/ Nom Commercial	Immunized at/Immunisé à	
2017-06-14	002 03 04	Diphtheria, Tetanus, acellular Pertussis, Inactivated Polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b/Diphthérie, coqueluche acellulaire, tétanos, polio inactivé, Haemophilus influenzae type b	PEDIACEL	Public Health Office/Bureau de Santé publique	
2017-06-14	002 03 04	Measles, mumps, rubella, varicella/Rougeole, rubéole, oreillons, varicelle	PROTRIX-TETRA	Public Health Office/Bureau de Santé publique	
2017-06-09	002 02 30	Hepatitis B Pediatric/Hépatite B-enfants	RECOMBIVAX HB Pediatric	Public Health Office/Bureau de Santé publique	
2016-05-05	001 01 25	Tetanus, Diphtheria, acellular Pertussis/Diphthérie, coqueluche acellulaire, tétanos	BOOSTRIX	Physician's Office/Cabinet du médecin	

This is a permanent record. Keep in a safe place.
Routine Immunizations
Fiche d'immunisation permanente à conserver en lieu sûr.
Immunisations systématiques

Name / Nom: _____ Date of Birth / Date de naissance: _____

Sexe: M / F

Medicare Number / Numéro d'assurance-maladie: _____

Immunization Record / Fiche d'immunisation

SAMPLE

Routine Immunization Schedule
Calendrier d'immunisation systématique

Other Immunizations / Autres immunisations: _____

Signature: _____

Next Appointment / Prochain rendez-vous: _____

Other Relevant Information / Autres informations pertinentes: _____

SAMPLE

Date	Age Immunized (yyy mm dd)	Immunizing Agent abbreviation	Trade Name	Dosage	Route (ml)	Site	AEFI	Followup	Clinic
2017-06-14	002 03 04	MMRV	PRIORIX-TETRA	0.50	SC	Right Arm (A)	Y		Public
2017-06-14	002 03 04	DTaP-IPV/Hib	PEDIACEL	0.50	IM	Right Arm (B)	Y		Public
2017-06-09	002 02 30	HB Pediatric	RECOMBIVAX HB Pediatric	0.50	IM	Right Arm (B)			Public
2016-05-05	001 01 25	Tdap	BOOSTRIX	0.50	IM	Right Arm (B)			Physici

- **What do you do when a parent does not want a child immunized?**
 - Encourage the parent to discuss the benefits of immunization and the risks of not vaccinating with his/her health care provider or a Public Health nurse.
 - Inform the parent that child could be excluded from school in the event of an outbreak.
 - If the parent is still opposed to vaccinating the child after discussions with the health care provider or a Public Health Nurse, have him/her sign the exemption form (refer for Appendix B: Immunization Exemption Form for School Entry).

PRESCHOOL BOOSTER

- **What is the preschool booster?**
 - The preschool booster provides protection against tetanus, diphtheria, polio, and pertussis
 - This vaccine is a booster to the vaccines the child received at 2, 4, 6 and 18 months.
 - The preschool booster should be given at 4 years of age.
 - **If a child's immunization record was submitted before receiving the preschool booster, the parent will need to submit an updated record with documentation of the preschool booster.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MISSING IMMUNIZATION RECORD

Student moved from another province or country

A parent can call the health care provider's office where the child received vaccines in the past (another province or country) to obtain a copy of the immunization record or give them consent to send a copy to their new health care provider.

Student's physician no longer practicing

A parent can call the NB College of Physicians & Surgeons at (506) 849-5050 or contact them at <https://www.cpsnb.org/> to find out if records have been sent to storage and if there is a cost to obtain a copy of the immunization record.

Parent does not have a current immunization record.

To obtain an immunization record, a parent needs to contact a health care provider:

- If the child received immunizations at a Public Health clinic, the parent can contact the local Public Health office.
- If the child was immunized by another health care provider (e.g. physician, nurse practitioner, nurse), the parent needs to contact them.

Student's record is lost

- If a parent is unable to locate an immunization record or obtain a copy from the health care provider, the child needs to be re-vaccinated to ensure protection against vaccine preventable diseases;
OR
- The parent can sign an exemption form and specify the reason for the objection and the vaccines he/she wishes to exempt.

USEFUL LINKS

Vitalité Health Network

- <http://www.vitalitenb.ca/en/points-service/public-health/immunization-vaccines/children-entering-school>
- Key words for search: Vitalite/Immunization then click on “Children Entering School”

NB Routine Immunization Schedule

- <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/h-s/pdf/en/CDC/Immunization/RoutineImmunizationSchedule.pdf>

Canadian Provinces and Territories Immunization Schedules

- Vaccines and immunization schedules are slightly different across Canada (e.g. vaccines may be given at different ages). <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/provincial-territorial-immunization-information.html>