

New Law on School Vaccination Requirements

Removing Nonmedical Exemption

On June 13, 2019, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed legislation removing nonmedical exemptions from school vaccination requirements for children to help protect the public from the worst measles outbreak in more than 25 years.

What does the new law do?

The new law no longer allows a religious exemption to the requirement that children be vaccinated against measles and other diseases to attend either:

- public, private or parochial school (for students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade), or
- day care.

Deadlines for vaccination under the new law

For children who are attending school or day care this summer:

Within 14 days of the first day of school or day care – children must receive the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series to attend or remain in school or day care.

Within 30 days after the first day of school or day care – parents or guardians of such children must show that they have appointments for all required follow-up doses. The deadlines for follow-up doses depend on the vaccine.

For children entering or attending school or day care in the fall:

Within 14 days of the first day of school or day care – children must receive the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series to attend or remain in school or day care.

Within 30 days after the first day of school or day care – parents or guardians of such children must show that they have appointments for all required follow-up doses. The deadlines for follow-up doses depend on the vaccine.

Catch-up Immunization Schedule to continue to attend school or day care:

The New York State Department of Health expects children to receive all required doses listed on [Table 2](#) at the following link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/child/0-18yrs-child-combined-schedule.pdf>