



IOWA IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Iowa Code, Chapter 139a.8(6) and Iowa Administrative Code, 641-7.7(139) outline the immunization requirement for students attending licensed child care centers and elementary or secondary schools. Students shall have received the required immunizations and submit the Iowa Department of Public Health Certificate of Immunization or have a valid Certificate of Immunization Exemption, or Provisional Certificate of Immunization.

*****NEW MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINE REQUIREMENTS*****

An administrative rule change to require meningococcal (A, C, W, Y) vaccine for students enrolling in 7th and 12th grades was effective January 11, 2017. The change will be implemented at the beginning of the upcoming 2017-2018 school year.

The change requires a one-time dose of meningococcal (A, C, W, Y) vaccine received on or after 10 years of age for applicants in grades 7 and above, if born after September 15, 2004; and 2 doses of meningococcal (A, C, W, Y) vaccines for applicants in grade 12, if born after September 15, 1999; or 1 dose if received when applicants are 16 years of age or older.

Meningococcal disease caused by any serogroup is very serious. Approximately 10 to 15% of people with meningococcal disease die even with appropriate treatment. Of those who recover, up to 20% suffer from serious after-effects, such as permanent hearing loss, limb loss, or brain damage. Meningococcal vaccines are very safe and effective at preventing meningococcal disease. The meningococcal vaccine is 85 – 100% effective at preventing infection from the subtypes of meningococcus found in the vaccine. The National Immunization Survey (NIS) Teen, 2015 results indicate 75% of Iowa adolescents 13-17 years of age have received one dose the Meningococcal (A, C, W, Y) vaccine. The national average for one dose of meningococcal vaccine is 81.3%. The meningococcal secondary school vaccine requirement will help Iowa achieve and maintain high adolescent vaccine coverage levels, protecting the health of adolescents, friends, families, and communities.

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact the Bremer County Health Department at 319-352-0082.