



Welcome to the Helena School District

For your child to have the best opportunity to learn, he or she should be in good health. The Helena School District recommends that new students have a complete health check-up by a health care provider and dentist prior to enrollment.

The summer before kindergarten is an excellent time to address any medical or dental concerns for your child. Continuous medical and dental supervision by one health care provider and one dentist, who are acquainted with your child and his/her health, will give your child the best care.

Immunizations

Montana Law requires that children enrolled in kindergarten must meet minimum immunization requirements as follows:

- 4 doses of Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus (DPT) or Diphtheria, Tetanus (DTAP). At least one dose must be given after the child's 4th birthday.
- 3 doses of Polio Vaccine with at least one dose given after the child's 4th birthday.
- 2 doses of Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) with at least one dose after the child's 1st birthday.
- 2 doses of Varicella (Chicken Pox)

Your health care provider will provide a copy of your child's immunization record. This immunization information must include the day, month and year of the immunizations. **Up-to-date immunization information must be at the school before your child can attend class.**

Per Montana law, parents can file for either a Medical exemption or a Religious exemption. A **Medical Exemption** is appropriate if a student's health care provider and parent agree that a required vaccination is not appropriate, based on the student's health. A **Religious Exemption** is appropriate if a vaccine is contrary to the family's religious beliefs. Links for both exemptions can be found below:

Religious Exemption

Link to Religious Exemption Form:

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/assets/publichealth/Immunization/HES113Schools.pdf>

Medical Exemption

Link to the Medical Exemption Form:

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/assets/publichealth/Immunization/HES101A.pdf>

Immunizations may be administered at your health care provider's office or:

Lewis and Clark Public Health (LCPH). To schedule an appointment at LCPH, please contact them at:

1930 Ninth Avenue

Helena, MT 59601

406-457-8900

OR

Helena Indian Alliance (HIA)

501 Euclid Ave.

Helena Montana, 59601

406-449-5796; 406-442-9244

For families without medical insurance, a sliding fee scale, based on income, is available

<https://www.hia-mt.org/>

New patients to HIA, please register first at: <https://hia-mt.org/care>

Both LCPH and Helena Indian Alliance will need a copy of all vaccinations already given, if the vaccinations were given outside of Montana. Your student's vaccination record can also be obtained through the school nurse, if a record has been turned in.

If your student has had this vaccination, please have the health care provider's office fax to your student's school or bring the documentation to the Main Office.

Please talk with your healthcare provider, nurses at the public health department, or your student's School Nurse to discuss your student's immunization status.

Thank you and welcome to school ~ the Helena School District Nurses

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