

Is Your Child Ready?

Initial Medical Requirements for Kindergarten Entry

1) **Medical Exam/Kindergarten Health Assessment**: Children entering Kindergarten for the first time *must* have a Medical Physical Exam Form or Kindergarten Health Assessment Form completed no more than 12 months prior to enrollment by a physician or the Transylvania County Health Department. The medical assessment must include screening for vision and hearing.

For example: For the **2012-2013 School Year**, Medical Physical Exam Forms or Kindergarten Health Assessment Forms completed **on or after August 8, 2011** will satisfy the entry requirement. Any physicals completed prior to this date are not valid; meaning another medical exam will be required.

2) **Immunizations**:

NC State Required Vaccines for Kindergarten Entry:

DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis)	5 doses		Mumps	2 doses
Polio	4 doses		Rubella	1 dose
Hib (haemophilus influenzae type B)	3-4 doses		Hepatitis B	3 doses
Measles	2 doses		Varicella (chickenpox)	1 dose

* In addition to the vaccines listed above, there are several other vaccines you may want to consider for your child. Hepatitis A, Flu, and a second dose of Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine are **not** required for school entry, but are recommended for children in this age group.

NC State Law, in accordance with GS 130a-155 and GS 130a-440, states the child's parent, guardian, or responsible person **must** present a ***certificate of immunization*** and a ***completed medical physical exam form*** on or before the child's first day of attendance. If a certificate of immunization and a completed medical physical exam form *are not* presented on the first day, the parent, guardian, or responsible person shall have **30 calendar days** from the first day of attendance to obtain the required immunizations or medical exam. Upon termination of 30 calendar days, the principal **shall not** permit the child to attend the school until the required immunizations and/or medical exam form has been obtained.

3) **Religious and Medical Exemptions:**

- **Religious Exemption:** In accordance with GS 130a-157, if the bona fide religious beliefs of the parent, guardian, or responsible person are contrary to the immunization requirements, the child *shall be* exempt from the requirements upon submission of a written statement of the bona fide religious beliefs and opposition to the immunization requirements.

- **Medical Exemption:** In accordance with GS 130a-156, if a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state of North Carolina certifies that a required immunization is or may be detrimental to a person's health; the person **is not** required to receive the specified immunization as long as the contraindication persists.