

Grade 7-8 School Immunization Clinics: Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is a signature from the parent/legal guardian required on the consent form? Where can I get a consent form?

- Students in grades 7 and 8 require a parent/legal guardian to complete and submit the electronic immunization consent form.
- [CLICK HERE TO ACCESS ELECTRONIC CONSENT FORM](#)

2. When does the consent form need to be submitted?

- There is no deadline to submit an electronic consent form. Submissions will be accepted up until the immunization clinic is offered at your child's school. Submitted consent forms remain valid for 2nd and 3rd doses of the same vaccine series (as indicated above) unless consent is withdrawn.

3. I submitted a form for my child last (school) year. Does the form need to be re-submitted?

- For your child to be eligible to receive vaccines at the school clinic, please submit an updated electronic consent form for this school year, even if a form was submitted last year.

4. My child is very nervous. What can I do to prepare my child for the immunization?

- Visit [What to Expect at an Immunization Clinic](#) section for tips on how to reduce pain and anxiety about getting needles.

5. Is receiving more than one vaccine at a time safe?

- Yes. Your child's immune system can easily handle many vaccines at once. Receiving multiple vaccines is safe, convenient, and ensures the best protection for your child at the earliest age possible.

6. What should I expect after my child receives an immunization at school?

- Students are observed by a nurse in the clinic for 15 minutes after receiving an immunization. All usual activities, including physical activity and sports may be resumed after being immunized. The most common side effects are mild, short-term and may include: redness, swelling, and discomfort at the injection site. Severe side effects are rare.

7. I'm not sure if my child has an allergy to the items listed on the consent form (aluminum, latex, yeast, thimerosal, sodium chloride, L-histidine, polysorbate 80 or borate.) Where are they found?

- Latex can be found in rubber gloves, balloons or bandages
- Yeast can be found in bread, cereal or cookies
- Some childhood vaccines contain aluminum, thimerosal, sodium chloride (salt), L-histidine, polysorbate 80, trometamol, sucrose and borate

Children with a known allergy to the above items should not be vaccinated at school. Consult with your health care provider if your child may be allergic to any of these items.

8. Who should I contact if my child previously received a vaccine?

- To update your child's immunization record contact York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456 or visit eimmunization.york.ca

9. Are these vaccines mandatory?

- Meningococcal ACYW-135 vaccination is required for school attendance as outlined in the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* unless a valid exemption is on file.
- Hepatitis B and Human Papillomavirus vaccines are strongly recommended for students, though they are not mandatory for school attendance. These vaccines are safe and effective for protecting your child against infectious diseases and associated severe health complications including cancers.

10. My child recently received the COVID-19 and/or Influenza vaccine. Are they safe to receive the school-based vaccines now?

- For individuals 6 months of age and older, COVID-19 vaccines may be given on the same day or at any time before or after, non-COVID-19 vaccines including the Influenza and school-based vaccines.

11. How can my child catch up on other routine immunizations, aside from the vaccines offered in school?

- Children should receive overdue routine immunizations at the earliest opportunity. Routine immunizations are critically important for prevention against several infectious diseases; they are available by appointment through [York Region Public Health Community catch-up clinics by clicking here](#) or your health care provider. This can include immunizations that are required for school such as tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, polio, chickenpox, measles, mumps, and rubella.
- If you are unsure if your child is due for any of these vaccines, check their immunization record (yellow immunization card), speak to your health care provider, or call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675. If your child has received vaccines through your health care provider, see question #8.

12. How long are students eligible for these student vaccinations?

- Students in grades 7-12 are eligible for publicly funded (free) doses of Hepatitis B, Meningococcal ACYW-135 and HPV vaccines (with all doses of Hepatitis B & HPV vaccine received) before August 31st of the graduating secondary school year.
- Students who do not receive Meningococcal ACYW-135 vaccine while in grades 7-12 remain eligible after the school year, until a dose is received.
- If a student needs 3 doses of HPV vaccine or Hepatitis B vaccine but only 2 doses can be received at the school immunization clinics, the additional dose can be received by booking an appointment at one of York Region Public Health's [community catch-up clinics](#) within the period of vaccine eligibility.

13. Do students need to wear a mask to be immunized?

- No. Although students may still wish to wear a mask, masks are not required in immunization clinics.

14. Who can I contact if my question is not covered here?

- Visit york.ca/immunization for more information or call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675.