



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

August 18, 2025

Dear School Superintendent/Administrator:

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), with support from the Mississippi State Department of Education, conducts a School Compliance Survey each year. The purpose of this survey is to ensure the schools have a Certificate of Immunization Compliance (Form 121) and, if applicable, Certificate of Medical/Religious Exemption (Form 122) for each student in grades K-12.

Any student in one of the following categories **must** obtain a new Certificate of Immunization Compliance (Form 121):

1. All students enrolled in a Mississippi school for the first time and transfer students from another state.
2. All previously enrolled students with an incomplete Certificate of Immunization Compliance Form 121.
3. All students entering the 7th grade will require the Tdap vaccination.

It is the responsibility of the school administrator to determine which children do not have a compliance form or have an incomplete compliance form. Each new student must provide evidence of the required immunizations on the appropriate form at the beginning of each school year.

Enclosed you will find:

1. Updated 2025-26 school year fact sheet for details of school compliance requirements that includes the MSDH policy established pursuant to state law,
2. Letter sent to all schools with instructions on how to complete this year's compliance report, and
3. Worksheet for the 2025-26 Preliminary Compliance Report.

Both Preliminary and Final Compliance Reports are required from **all schools**. The Preliminary Compliance Report and the Final Compliance Report are both electronic.

- This is the link to the [2025-2026 Preliminary School Compliance Form](#) which must be completed and submitted by **September 19, 2025**. This survey will be closed on **September 19, 2025, at 11:59 pm**.
- The Final Compliance Report is to be completed and submitted by **December 12, 2025**. Communication with the link will be sent to all schools for The Final Compliance Report. This assessment will go live on **November 10, 2025**.

Thank you for your support to protect the children of Mississippi against vaccine preventable diseases. If you need further assistance, please contact the MSDH Office of Immunizations, at (601) 576-7751.

Sincerely,

Daniel Edney, MD

Daniel Edney, MD, FACP, FASAM
State Health Officer
Mississippi State Department of Health

Lance Evans

Dr. Lance Evans
State Superintendent of Education
Mississippi State Department of Education

Enclosures

MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IMMUNIZATION SCHOOL COMPLIANCE FACT SHEET 2025-26 School Year

Updated (07/03/25)

Due to several changes, please review this document before completing the 2025-26 Preliminary/Final School Compliance Reports.

Each student must have one, or both (for Medical and Religious Exemptions), of the following forms on file at the beginning of the school year:

1. **A Certificate of Immunization Compliance (Form 121; MIIX validated or signed).**
2. **A Certificate of Medical/Religious Exemption (Form 122), accompanied by a Form 121 signed by the State Epidemiologist or Deputy State Epidemiologist.**

Any student without the appropriate forms must be excluded until the proper form is obtained.

Form 121s signed by a physician, nurse, or MIIX validated should be accepted by schools as an official Mississippi State Department of Health Immunization Compliance form. MIIX validated forms will include a unique identifier number at the top right corner of the page. All 121s are watermarked with the MSDH logo. You will also find the MSDH logo in the bottom right corner of the form.
(Version Revised 5/18/21)

Please note that the Certificate of Medical/Religious Exemption (Form 122) will be signed by the State Epidemiologist or the Deputy State Epidemiologist. **Handwritten and signed 121 forms may still be accepted.**

MSDH's public facing system (MyIR) allows parents to print Form 121 if immunizations are up to date. The computer-generated 121 Form will denote MIIX Validated on the signature line. The MIIX validated forms should be accepted by schools as an official Mississippi State Department of Health Immunization Compliance form.

Due to a programming error, Form 121s being printed from MyIR Mobile are not always matching the Form 121s being printed from MIIX. We are seeing forms printed from MyIR Mobile showing a child is not compliant, yet MIIX shows they are compliant and will validate the child's compliance status appropriately.

We are also seeing Form 121s validating children for K4-6th grade with only 3 DTaP. MIIX is also showing the 4th dose as past due for these students.

If you encounter a discrepancy such as these, please contact our main office at (601) 576-7751 for assistance. Your patience is greatly appreciated as we rectify these issues

The Mississippi Code Annotated, Title 41, Sections 41-23-37 as amended, vests authority in the State Health Officer to specify immunization practices considered best for the control of vaccine preventable diseases. The following immunizations are required for attendance in Mississippi schools:

- **Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus Vaccine** – Five doses of diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis vaccine are required (4 doses if the 4th dose was received after the 4th birthday).
- **Polio Vaccine** – Four doses of polio vaccine are required (3 doses if the 3rd dose was received after the 4th birthday).
- **MMR Vaccine** – Two doses of MMR are required. (First dose must be on or after the 1st birthday).
- **Hepatitis B Vaccine** – **Effective August 1999**, three doses of Hepatitis B are required.
- **Varicella Vaccine** – **Effective August 1, 2007**, children entering school for the first time will be required to have two doses of the Varicella Vaccine (chickenpox vaccine) or a history of chickenpox.
- **Tdap Vaccine** – Children age 7-9 years who receive Tdap should receive the routine Tdap dose at age 11-12 years. Children age 10 years who receive Tdap do not need to receive the routine Tdap dose at age 11-12 years.

Transfer Students - In-state transfer students should have a compliance form in their cumulative folder. Out-of- state transfer students must present one of the forms listed above.

Form Issuance - A valid Certificate of Immunization Compliance must be issued by the county health department, private physician or MIIX Validated. The Certificate of Medical or Religious Exemption must be approved, and signed, by the State Epidemiologist or Deputy State Epidemiologist.

Form Filing and Review - The Certificate of Immunization Compliance Form and the Certificate of Medical or Religious Exemption must be kept in a separate file for auditing purposes and, if necessary, disease outbreak control. All time-limited forms should be reviewed periodically to ensure each child receives the required immunizations prior to the expiration date listed on the form.

Compliance Deadlines - The Preliminary Compliance Report is due **September 19, 2025**, and the Final Compliance Report is due **December 12, 2025**. To ensure each child is following immunization requirements, schools are obligated to file compliance forms. Compliance forms should be filed in a timely manner at the beginning of the school year.

Dual Exemption Students – Students are allowed to have both a medical exemption and a religious exemption. DO NOT COUNT BOTH EXEMPTIONS, ONLY THE MOST RECENT.