



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
Oxiris Barbot, MD
Commissioner

October 2019

Dear Principal or Director,

As a reminder, to attend child care and school, all children must be in compliance with immunization requirements as required by New York State (NYS) Public Health Law Section 2164 and New York Codes, Rules and Regulations Title 10, Subpart 66-1.

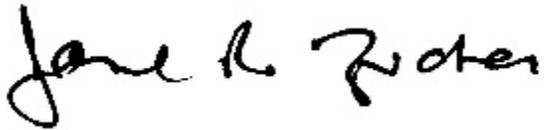
In response to several questions that have come up about children who are delayed with immunizations, New York State issued [updated guidance](#). Principals are responsible for ensuring that students who are not in compliance with immunization requirements are excluded from child care and school. Please share the guidance, attached, and additional information, below, with all child care and school staff who review immunization compliance:

- Children who are not fully immunized must get catch-up doses of immunizations within 14 days after the minimum interval that they are due, according to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) [catch-up schedule \(Table 2\)](#).
- Several schools have asked about the significance of the June 30, 2020, date. As stated in the guidance, attached, by June 30, 2020, all students are expected to be fully up to date on their required immunizations because follow-up doses must be received within 14 days after the minimum intervals identified by the ACIP [catch-up schedule \(Table 2\)](#).
- A child who is obtaining serologic tests is in process within 14 days of when such testing is requested. The school may permit the child to attend school if they receive a positive serologic test or laboratory confirmation of disease for measles, mumps, rubella, varicella or hepatitis B within 14 days; this is a change from the previous time frame of 30 days. As a reminder, serology is not acceptable proof of immunity for polio, diphtheria, tetanus or pertussis, meningococcus, pneumococcus, haemophilus, or influenza.
- As a reminder, medical exemption requests must be submitted by a NYS-licensed physician on a medical exemption form approved by the [New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene](#) or [NYS Department of Health](#). Medical exemption requests must be valid, in accordance with [ACIP](#) guidelines, and are subject to review. Exemption requests on other forms are not acceptable. Contact the NYC Health Department's Bureau of Immunization at 347-396-2433 for assistance with reviewing medical exemption requests submitted to your program.

Please share the attached "Parent Letter" with parents of children who are not up to date with immunizations required for child care and school. For questions, please contact 347-396-2433 or email School_Immunizations@health.nyc.gov.

Thank you for helping to keep New York City children and families safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane R. Zucker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc
Assistant Commissioner
Bureau of Immunization
New York City Department of
Health and Mental Hygiene