



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Earl Ray Tomblin  
Governor

Rocco S. Fucillo  
Cabinet Secretary

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 19, 2012

TO: Local Health Department Directors of Nursing  
Vaccines for Children Providers  
County School Superintendents  
County School Administrators  
County Attendance Directors  
School Counselors  
School Nurses  
School Based Health Centers

FROM: Marian Swinker, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner and State Health Officer  
Bureau for Public Health *MS*

RE: **Two Week Grace Period for 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Enterers to Provide Documentation of Required Vaccinations**

As all concerned are probably aware, beginning in this upcoming 2012-13 school year all 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade enterers must show proof of age-appropriate Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) and MCV4 (meningitis) vaccinations before entering school. In this first year of these adolescent immunization requirements, students are being allowed a two-week grace period to provide documentation of the required vaccinations.

VFC enrolled physicians and other providers of immunization should be prepared to receive an increase in requests for appointments and immunization documentation from the parents and guardians of their patients in the coming days leading up to and immediately after the start of school. The dates of the beginning of school vary widely through the month of August in West Virginia, with at least one jurisdiction beginning as early as August 1<sup>st</sup>.

As a reminder, the requirements are:

- 7<sup>th</sup> grade enterers must have had one dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) and one dose of MCV (meningococcal) vaccine.
- 12 grade enterers must have had one dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) and a second dose of MCV (meningococcal) vaccine, if indicated. Only one dose of MCV4 is required if the first dose was administered after 16 years of age.

You may contact the Bureau for Public Health, Division of Immunization Services (DIS) by telephone at 1-800-642-3634 or visit the DIS on the web at [www.wvimmunization.org](http://www.wvimmunization.org) for more information about required vaccinations or other immunization issues.

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