



Linn County NEWS



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Linn County children 94% fully vaccinated for school

Make sure your child's

shots are up to date by Feb 16

ALBANY — Students in all Linn County schools — both public and private — pre-school programs such as Head Start and day care, must be up-to-date on their recommended shots by Feb. 16, 2022, or obtain an exemption from the state, according to Hannah Wuilliez, immunization coordinator with Linn County Public Health.

School and day care immunizations are different than COVID-19 vaccination mandates.

“Nearly every place that provides care for a child outside the home requires shots or a medical or nonmedical exemption to stay enrolled,” Wuilliez said.

According to the Oregon Health Authority, 94% of school-aged children in Linn County are up-to-date on all of the recommended vaccinations, Wuilliez noted.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, “On-time vaccination throughout childhood is essential because it helps provide immunity before children are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases. Vaccines are tested to ensure that they are safe and effective for children to receive at the recommended ages.”

Wuilliez encourages parents and guardians to contact their primary medical provider, or a local pharmacy to schedule a vaccine appointment. If you or your child are uninsured and under 19 years of age, contact your local health department or call 211 and ask about the Vaccines for Children program.

Parents can opt out of vaccinations by completing a printout from an online webinar showing they've received information about each vaccine, or a form signed by a physician saying they've been informed of the potential consequences for choosing not to vaccinate.

Required vaccinations for school and child care attendance include: DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, and whooping cough), polio, MMR (measles, mumps rubella), Hepatitis A and B, Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type B) and Tdap (tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, and acellular pertussis). The required shots for each age group varies. Contact your primary medical provider or your local health department to learn which shots your child needs.

Contact the Linn County Public Health Department at 541-967-3888.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why are vaccines required?

A. Vaccines provide protection against getting serious diseases to the person who receives them. Vaccines also help protect friends, neighbors and communities by reducing the number of people who could get the diseases. When enough people are vaccinated, these diseases tend to stop spreading. Outbreaks of disease occur more where people are close together for a long time, such as a schools or child care.

Q. Do vaccines given in other countries count?

A. Yes, as long as you can provide at least the month and year that the vaccine doses were given, most vaccine doses given in other countries will count towards meeting vaccination requirements in Oregon. Contact your local health department for more information regarding out of country vaccines.



*Hannah Wuilliez
Linn County Immunization Coordinator*

Q. How can I get proof of which vaccines my child has received?

A. Contact your child's primary medical provider, or your local health department.

Q. What if I don't know which vaccines my child needs?

A. Talk with your medical provider to learn more about the recommended vaccine schedule for your child.

Q. What if a doctor told me that my child should not get certain vaccines?

A. Oregon allows a medical exemption. It must be signed by a doctor or local health department. If you think your child needs a medical exemption, talk to your child's medical provider.

Q. What if I am choosing not to get vaccinated?

A. Oregon allows a nonmedical exemption. For information about how to get a nonmedical exemption, contact your local health department.