

LAKELANDS PUBLIC HEALTH IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILDREN IN LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTRES

As per the *Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA)*, 2014, children in Ontario require certain vaccines as directed by the local Medical Officer of Health to attend licensed child care centres or they must have a valid exemption.

What do parents/guardians need to do?

Parents/guardians are responsible for keeping their child's immunizations and immunization record up to date and providing a copy of the record to the child care centre before their child starts receiving care. They are also responsible for updating the child care centre when their child receives vaccine updates.

What does the child care centre operator need to do?

The child care centre operator is responsible for collecting and keeping a copy of all immunization records and exemptions for children attending the child care centre prior to admission. They are also responsible for providing a copy of all immunization records and exemptions to the Health Unit.

Required immunizations

VACCINE	REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION
Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib), diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis (may be given as Pediacel® – DTaP-IPV-Hib)	- Primary series of 3 doses (usually given at 2, 4 and 6 months of age) - Booster at 18 months of age
Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis (may be given as Adacel-Polio® – Tdap-IPV)	One dose given at 4-6 years of age

Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	• One dose on or after the first birthday • Second dose at 4-6 years of age
Varicella (Chickenpox)	• One dose at 15 months of age • Second dose at 4-6 years of age
Meningococcal (C serogroup) OR Men-C-ACYW (as of July 2026)	• One dose on or after the first birthday
Pneumococcal	• Three doses at 2, 4 and 12 months of age

Strongly recommended immunizations

VACCINE	DOCUMENTATION
Influenza	• Annually for those over the age of 6 months
Rotavirus	• Three doses at 2, 4 and 6 months of age (cannot be given after 32 weeks of age)
COVID-19	• Primary series and booster dose(s), as per current eligibility criteria
RSV	• One dose for eligible infants and high-risk children < 24 months

Exemptions from immunization

Parents/guardians who have philosophical or religious objections to immunization may apply for an exemption for their child, using the form below. A separate exemption application must be completed for each child. To be valid, the Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief forms

need to be notarized by a Commissioner of Oaths, unaltered, and the original copy must be given to the Health Unit.

- **Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief for Child, *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014***

If a child is unable to be immunized for medical reasons, parents/guardians can request that a legally qualified healthcare provider complete the following medical exemption form. The original copy must be given to the Health Unit.

- **Statement of Medical Exemption for Child, *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014***

Health Unit's role

- Assesses the immunization records and exemptions of all children attending licensed child care centres in its jurisdiction.
- Provides written notification to parents/guardians if immunization information is missing for a child.
- Upon notification of an outbreak or threat of an outbreak of a designated disease, the Health Unit identifies children at risk for the disease and may exclude those without the required immunizations under section 22 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* (HPPA).

For more information, please contact the Health Unit at: 1-844-575-4567