



# ATTENTION PARENTS! GET READY

Alabama requires all students in grades 6-12 to have a Tdap vaccine.

In addition, ADPH and ACIP recommends HPV and Meningococcal vaccine for this age group.

**For questions, please contact the  
Immunization Division at 1-800-469-4599.**



**ADPH.ORG**

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# Important Vaccines for Your Adolescent

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Immunization Division (IMM), and the Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices (ACIP) encourage you to make sure that your child receives all recommended vaccines in order to prevent diseases. Read about these vaccines below.

## Immunizations recommended for persons 11 through 18 years of age<sup>a</sup>

Vaccination	Required or Recommended	For whom does the ACIP/CDC <sup>b</sup> recommend this vaccine?	What does this vaccine help protect against?	What are some of the symptoms of these diseases?	When is the vaccine given?
<b>Tdap<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>Required by State Law</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All adolescents 11 through 18 years of age</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 serious bacterial diseases</li> <li>• Tetanus; also known as “lockjaw”</li> <li>• Diphtheria: upper respiratory disease</li> <li>• Pertussis: also known as “whooping cough”</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tetanus:</b> Painful tightening of the muscles</p> <p><b>Diphtheria:</b> Difficulty in breathing; can lead to paralysis, heart failure</p> <p><b>Pertussis:</b> Severe coughing spells and vomiting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 dose during adolescence</li> </ul>
<b>Varicella</b>	<b>Required by State Law</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All children 12 months through 18 years of age</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chickenpox</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A skin rash of blister-like lesions, usually on the face, scalp, or trunk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One dose required<sup>e</sup></li> <li>• Two doses recommended<sup>e</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Meningococcal</b>	Recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All adolescents 11 through 18 years of age</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meningococcal disease including blood infection (sepsis) and meningitis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial symptoms can be flu-like (including fever), stiff neck, rash</li> <li>• Can lead to hearing loss, amputation, seizures, coma, shock, or death within 48 hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 dose at 11 through 12 years of age</li> <li>• 1 booster dose at 16 years of age or</li> <li>• 1 dose at 13 through 18 years of age if not previously vaccinated</li> <li>• 1 booster dose at age 16 through 18 years for persons who received 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 13 through 15 years of age</li> </ul>
<b>HPV<sup>d</sup></b>	Recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All females and males 11 through 26 years of age<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sexually transmitted infection caused by the human papillomavirus</li> <li>• Can cause cervical cancer or genital warts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No symptoms at first</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 doses over 6 months</li> </ul>
<b>Influenza (Seasonal)</b>	Recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All children 6 months through 18 years of age</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Influenza virus: the “flu”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever, sore throat, cough, head and muscle aches, extreme tiredness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One dose each year</li> <li>• Children 6 months–8 years of age: 2 doses may be needed 4 weeks apart<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>

Other vaccines recommended include Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B.

<sup>a</sup> Additional vaccines may be recommended depending on the child’s vaccination history and risk factors. Please see the complete vaccination schedule at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/child-schedule.htm>

<sup>b</sup> CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

<sup>c</sup> Tdap = Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis.

<sup>d</sup> HPV = Human papillomavirus vaccine. ACIP recommends that all males and females ages 11 through 12 years be routinely vaccinated with a 3-dose series.

<sup>e</sup> See the School Immunization Law at [www.adph.org/immunization](http://www.adph.org/immunization)

The above vaccination information and additional immunization facts are available from the CDC online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/spec-grps/preteens-adol.htm> or <http://www.adph.org/immunization/> or contact ADPH Immunization at 1-800-469-4599.