

Office of Immunization



DOH Office of Immunization Updates
January 14, 2026

Agenda

- Washington DOH Hepatitis B recommendations following ACIP December vote
- January 5, 2026 HHS/CDC Childhood Immunization Schedule revisions
 - What changed: a closer look
- What this means
- Washington DOH and West Coast Health Alliance (WCHA) recommendations
- Public Health resources and support

DOH and Partner Alliances



The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and the West Coast Health Alliance (WCHA) are closely monitoring rapidly evolving federal developments and are committed to transparency as updates arise. DOH will continue to keep Tribes and partners informed.

DOH is actively collaborating with immunization-related alliances, committees, and boards at both the regional and national levels to align strategy and response.

WA DOH Hepatitis B Vaccine Recommendation

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) continues to recommend:

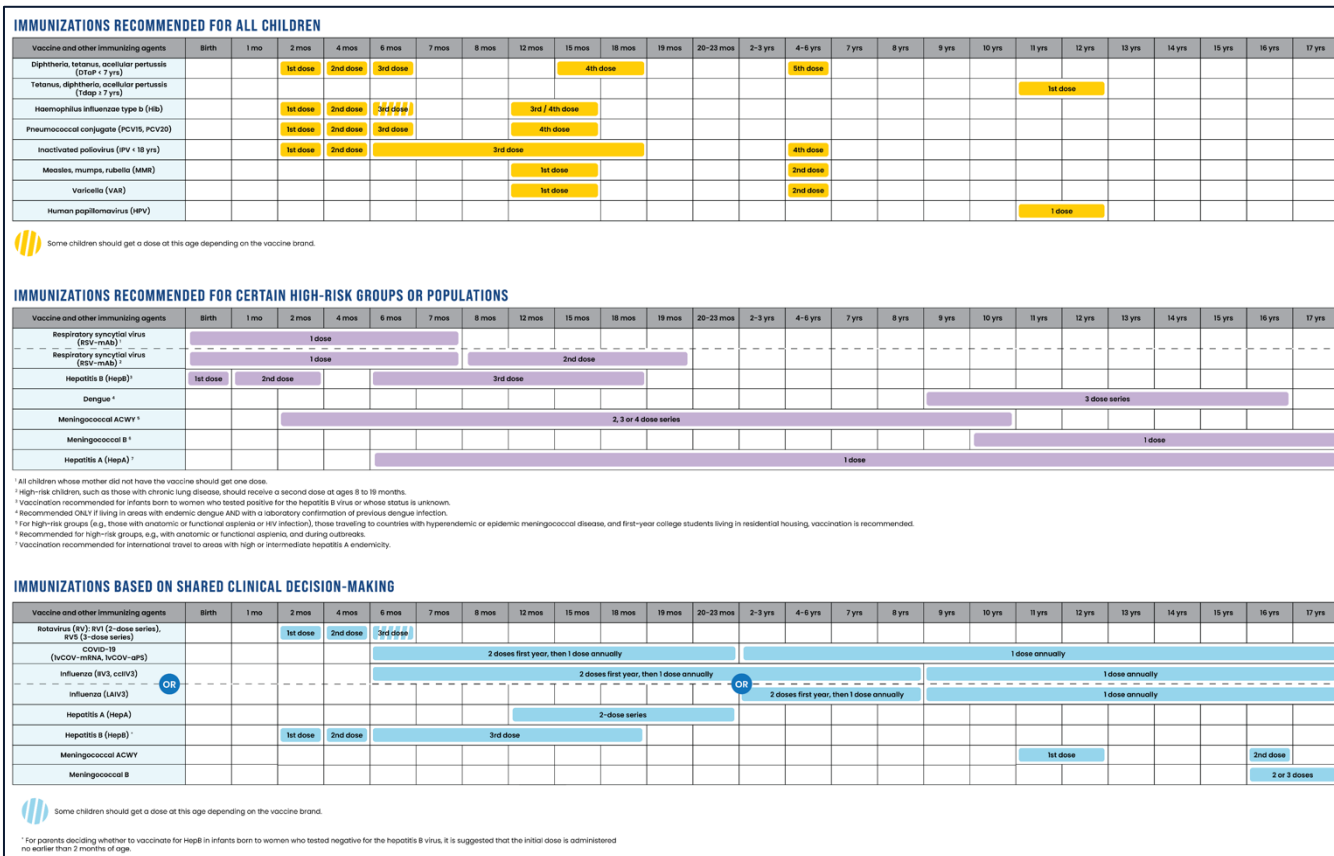
- All newborns receive the hepatitis B vaccine within 24 hours of birth, with completion of the 3 to 4 dose series by 18 months of age, regardless of the birth parents' hepatitis B infection status.
- Newborns of birth parents who test positive for hepatitis B infection or have an unknown status receive hepatitis B vaccine and hepatitis B immunoglobulin within 12 hours of birth.
- For infants born to a parent who is hepatitis B-positive, perform perinatal post-vaccination serologic testing 1-2 months after vaccine series completion, but not before 9 months of age.

This recommendation aligns with recommendations from the [West Coast Health Alliance](#) and leading national organizations, including the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#), the [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists](#), and the [Infectious Diseases Society of America](#).

Routine birth-dose vaccination, recommended since 1991, has contributed to a 99% reduction in annual hepatitis B infections and has prevented [more than 500,000 childhood infections and an estimated 90,100 childhood deaths](#).

Read our blog:
[Why the Hepatitis B Vaccine Birth Dose Matters](#)
on Public Health Connection
([Spanish version](#) available).

HHS Changes to the Childhood Immunization Schedule



U.S. childhood immunization schedule overhauled

The Trump administration is overhauling long-standing vaccine recommendations to align with other countries. Several vaccines that are now broadly recommended for children are limited to high-risk groups or in consultation with doctors.

VACCINE	REVISED RECOMMENDATION
MMR	Still routinely recommended
Polio	Still routinely recommended
Chicken pox	Still routinely recommended
DtAP	Still routinely recommended
Tdap	Still routinely recommended
Hib	Still routinely recommended
PCV	Still routinely recommended
HPV	Still routinely recommended

RSV	High risk groups only
Hepatitis A	High risk groups only
Hepatitis B	High risk groups only
Meningococcal ACWY	High risk groups only
Dengue	Still for high risk groups only
Influenza	No longer routinely recommended
Covid	No longer routinely recommended
Rotavirus	No longer routinely recommended
Covid vaccine recommendation was previously changed in the fall. Officials are also recommending one HPV vaccine dose instead of two.	
Source: Department of Health and Human Services FENIT NIRAPPIL / THE WASHINGTON POST	

HHS Press Releases issued January 5, 2026

- [CDC Acts on Presidential Memorandum to Update Childhood Immunization Schedule | HHS.gov](#)
- [Fact Sheet: CDC Childhood Immunization Recommendations | HHS.gov](#)

What Changed: A Closer Look

Vaccine-Preventable Disease	AAP Recommendations	Changes in Recommendation
HPV (Human papillomavirus) Contagious viral infection spread by close skin-to-skin touching, including during sex	For all adolescents, 2 doses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dose one: starting at age 9 • dose two: 6 months later 	1 Dose instead of 2, but still recommended for all children
RSV (Respiratory syncytial virus) Contagious viral infection of the nose, throat, and sometimes lungs; spread through air and direct contact	Recommended for all babies under 8 months of age	High Risk Groups Only
Hepatitis A Contagious viral infection of the liver; spread by contaminated food or drink or close contact with an infected person	2-dose series: 12–23 months of age	High Risk Groups Only
Hepatitis B Contagious viral infection of the liver; spread through contact with infected body fluids such as blood or semen	Birth	High Risk Groups Only *suggested to be given starting at 2 months of age
Meningococcal ACWY Contagious bacterial infection of the lining of the brain and spinal cord or the bloodstream; spread through air and direct contact	For all adolescents, 2 doses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dose one: starting at age 9 • dose two: 6 months later 	High Risk Groups Only

What Changed: A Closer Look

Vaccine-Preventable Disease	AAP Recommendations	Changes in Recommendation
Influenza (Flu) Contagious viral infection of the nose, throat, and sometimes lungs; spread through air and direct contact	6 months of age, minimum	No longer routinely recommended / Shared Clinical Decision-Making
COVID-19 Contagious viral infection of the nose, throat, or lungs; may feel like a cold or flu. Spread through air and direct contact	6 months of age, minimum	No longer routinely recommended / Shared Clinical Decision-Making
Rotavirus Contagious viral infection of the gut; spread through the mouth from hands and food contaminated with stool	6 weeks of age, minimum	No longer routinely recommended / Shared Clinical Decision-Making

Sources:

- [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\) Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#)
- [Childhood Immunization Schedule by Recommendation Group | HHS.gov](#)



What Does This Mean?

- Changes in the newly released recommended immunization schedule are not based on new evidence about vaccine safety or effectiveness.
 - The revisions were driven by a comparison of the number of routine vaccines recommended in the U.S. versus select other countries, without accounting for differing health systems, disease burden, or access to care.
 - The changes were not reviewed by medical or public health experts, health care providers, or the public prior to release.
- **Insurance coverage is not expected to change this plan year.**
All child and adolescent vaccines recommended as of December 31, 2025, will continue to be available and covered by public and private insurers.

WA DOH and WCHA Reaffirm Alignment with AAP Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule

Vaccines save lives.

The WCHA and WA DOH reaffirm alignment with the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\) Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#).

Read:

- [The WCHA Press Release, January 5, 2026](#)
- [The WA DOH Press Release, January 5, 2026](#)

Additional reading:

[States, health organizations reject new CDC vaccine guidance | CIDRAP](#)




Statement
www.doh.wa.gov/newsroom

American Academy of Pediatrics

Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule

Table 1

Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for Ages 18 Years or Younger, United States, 2025

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

These recommendations must be read with the **Notes** that follow. For those who fall behind or start late, provide catch-up vaccination at the earliest opportunity as indicated by the outlined purple bars . To determine minimum intervals between doses, see the catch-up schedule (Table 2).

Vaccine and other immunizing agents	Birth	1 mos	2 mos	4 mos	6 mos	8 mos	9 mos	12 mos	15 mos	18 mos	19–23 mos	2–3 yrs	4–6 yrs	7–10 yrs	11–12 yrs	13–15 yrs	16 yrs	17–18 yrs			
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV-mAb [nirsevimab, clesrovimab])	1 dose during RSV season depending on maternal RSV vaccination status (See Notes)					1 dose nirsevimab during RSV season (See Notes)															
Hepatitis B (HepB)	1 st dose	2 nd dose		3 rd dose																	
Rotavirus (RV): RV1 (2-dose series), RV5 (3-dose series)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	See Notes																
Diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (DTaP <7 yrs)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	3 rd dose				4 th dose				5 th dose								
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	See Notes				3 rd or 4 th dose (See Notes)												
Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV15, PCV20)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	3 rd dose				4 th dose												
Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	3 rd dose								4 th dose					See Notes			
COVID-19 (1vCOV-mRNA, 1vCOV-aPS)					1 or more doses of 2025–2026 vaccine (See Notes)							1 dose of 2025–2026 vaccine (See Notes)					1 dose of 2025–2026 vaccine (See Notes)				
Influenza					1 or 2 doses annually (See Notes)										1 dose annually (See Notes)						
Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)					See Notes			1 st dose				2 nd dose									
Varicella (VAR)								1 st dose				2 nd dose									
Hepatitis A (HepA)					See Notes			2-dose series (See Notes)													
Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (Tdap ≥7 yrs)															1 st dose						
Human papillomavirus (HPV)														2-dose series		See Notes					
Meningococcal (MenACWY-CRM ≥2 mos, MenACWY-TT ≥2years)			See Notes															1 st dose		2 nd dose	
Meningococcal B (MenB-4C, MenB-FHbp)															See Notes						
Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine (RSV [Abrysvo])																Seasonal administration during pregnancy if not previously vaccinated					
Dengue (DEN4CYD: 9–16 yrs)																Seropositive in areas with endemic dengue (See Notes)					
Mpox																					

Range of recommended ages for all children




Range of recommended ages for catch-up vaccination

Range of recommended ages for certain high-risk groups or populations

Recommended vaccination for those who desire protection

Recommended vaccination based on shared clinical decision-making

Washington DOH Respiratory Virus Immunization Recommendations

Age/Condition	COVID-19	Influenza	RSV
<div>Children</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 6-23 months• All 2-18 years with risk factors or never vaccinated against COVID-19• All who are in close contact with others with risk factors¹• All who choose protection¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 6 months and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All younger than 8 months²• All 8-19 months with risk factors
<div>Pregnancy</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All who are planning pregnancy, pregnant, postpartum or lactating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All who are planning pregnancy, pregnant, postpartum or lactating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 32-36 weeks gestational age²
<div>Adults</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 65 years and older• All younger than 65 years with risk factors• All who are in close contact with others with risk factors• All who choose protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 75 years and older• All 50-74 years with risk factors

Read: [West Coast Health Alliance announces vaccine recommendations for COVID-19, flu, and RSV | Washington State Department of Health](#)

Need Public Health Information or Support?

- [Visit the Washington State Department of Health \(DOH\) website](#) for trusted public health information.
- [Sign up](#) for WA DOH newsletters for timely updates.
- Follow WA DOH on social media: [Facebook](#), [Threads](#), [Instagram](#), [Bluesky](#), and [TikTok](#).
- [Contact your Local Health Jurisdiction \(LHJ\)](#) for public health information and resources in your community.
- For immunization-related questions, email OI@doh.wa.gov
- Explore immunization tools and materials in the [Vaccine Confidence Resource Library](#) on the DOH website.



To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email doh.information@doh.wa.gov.