Immunization Quick Tips



- ✓ All schools are encouraged to use USIIS to search immunization records to assess compliance with mandatory immunization requirements. Every secretary and/or school should have access to USIIS. If you or your school does not have access to USIIS, please contact Zo Finney at 801-538-6411.
- Online educational modules, "Understanding the Utah Immunization Rule for Students," are available at: http://www.immunize-utah.org/provider/school/School_edu_modules.html. The modules are intended to help school personnel responsible for submitting school reports understand how to apply the Rule to reporting procedures. The current modules do not reflect the recent changes in recommendations for Tdap vaccination.
- ✓ The November Annual Report should reflect students' immunization status beginning the <u>first day of school attendance</u>, NOT the day you are submitting the report.
- Schools should not allow students to attend without receiving <u>all</u> the required vaccines. Frequently, prior to submitting the Annual Report, parents are notified that a child requires a specific vaccine or the child will be excluded. Records should be reviewed early and frequently to avoid this practice.
- ✓ When assessing immunization records, remember that <u>all</u> students should be fully immunized unless exempted for personal, medical or religious reasons or they qualify for a valid conditional enrollment. Utah Statutory Code 53A-11-301 states that <u>all</u> children enrolled in a public, private, charter or parochial school MUST have an immunization record that documents <u>all</u> required vaccines received.
- ✓ Assess the students' records <u>before</u> they enter school and allow adequate time for students to complete the necessary vaccines before issuing a letter of intent to exclude. Utah Statutory Code 53-A-306 states, "A written notice of a pending suspension and of the student's rights under Utah Code 53A-11-302 shall be mailed beginning five days after the conditional enrollment period ends."
- ✓ Most students should have completed all the required vaccines before entering school and would not be classified as "conditional." Hepatitis A is most likely the only vaccine that would allow for a conditional enrollment, unless the student is from another country or a student is starting a vaccine series over, which is not very common.
- ✓ Tdap is required for 7th grade entry on the <u>first day of school</u>. <u>Tdap is not a conditional enrollment vaccine!</u> Current recommendations indicate that Tdap may be administered regardless of the interval since the last diphtheria-containing vaccine. Please notify all school secretaries regarding this requirement. Students should <u>not</u> be allowed to enter 7th grade without documentation of this vaccine.
- ✓ The Utah Immunization Program website, www.immunize-utah.org, has been updated with the current Tdap requirements, and all VFC enrolled providers have been notified of the new Tdap requirements. Additionally, the new 2011-12 school flyers are now posted on our website at: www.immunize-utah.org/provider/school/schoolchild requirements.htm.
- ✓ Ensure that a Utah School Immunization Record (USIR) or "Pink Card" is filed in every student's file, appropriately completed and signed.
- ✓ Per CDC requirements, the Utah Immunization Program will be conducting retrospective audits of school immunization records. These audits will be scheduled on an ongoing basis.