



# NEWSLETTER

VIRGINIA IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM  
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

JULY—SEPTEMBER 2019

## What's New...

### New Tdap School Requirement

In April 2018, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) updated its recommendation for the minimum age for the adolescent booster dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis (Tdap). The recommendation changed the minimum age from 10 years of age to 11 years of age. As such a fully vaccinated child that is 10 years old is no longer medically indicated to receive the Tdap vaccine. Only those children on a catch-up schedule are medically indicated to receive the Tdap vaccine prior to 11 years of age.

Previously in Virginia, students were required to have received the Tdap vaccine prior to entry to sixth grade. To align with current medical practice, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation effective July 1, 2019 that changes the grade that students need to have had the Tdap vaccine from sixth to seventh grade. Therefore for the upcoming 2019/2020 school year, only those entering seventh grade (or higher for new students) will be required to have received the Tdap vaccine. As long as the student received the vaccine at age 7 years or older, the student will meet the school vaccination requirement for Tdap. [Click here to view the FAQs.](#) [Click here to view school requirements \[http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/11/2019/04/Min\\\_Requirements\\\_042019.pdf\]\(http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/11/2019/04/Min\_Requirements\_042019.pdf\)](#).

### National Immunization Awareness Month

August is National Immunization Awareness Month. The work you do in providing vaccines to your patients is integral in ensuring that Virginians consistently are the healthiest people in the Nation. Looking for tips on how to address parents' questions about the safety of vaccines for their child? Watch CDC's #HowIRecommend video series to see how other healthcare professionals effectively address questions about vaccine safety in their practice <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/howirecommend/index.html>. Also, stay up to date on Virginia's vaccine requirements and the latest CDC vaccine information by visiting <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/>.

## Did You Know?

### Printing Immunization Records

We have received reports about immunization record printing difficulties while using Internet Explorer 10 or 11. The issue is with creating and displaying the PDF document from which the record is printed. VIIS staff recommends the use of Adobe Acrobat Reader 9.3 or later when viewing and printing VIIS Immunization Records. If you are unsure of how to check or update the version on your computer, please contact your IT department. If you encounter other issues, call the VIIS Help Desk at 1-866-375-9795.

### Review Data Sent via Data Exchange

Data exchange already set up? Great! While transmission of immunization data from your Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system to the Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS) usually runs smoothly in the background, it is important to check the data uploaded to the registry on a regular basis. Having access to VIIS and your EMR system enables you to validate completeness and accuracy of data that is transmitted. For any questions, comments or concerns, please call the VIIS Help Desk at 1-866-375-9795.

## VIIS Registration & Training

Are you in need of VIIS training or know a provider or school who wants access?

Contact a VIIS Trainer:

**Casey Barham, South East Region**

[Casey.Barham@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Casey.Barham@vdh.virginia.gov)

**Sateria Jeffress, South Central Region**

[Sateria.Jeffress@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Sateria.Jeffress@vdh.virginia.gov)

**Kimberly Jones, South West Region**

[Kimberly.Jones@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Jones@vdh.virginia.gov)

**Reena Patel, West Central Region**

[Reena.Patel@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Reena.Patel@vdh.virginia.gov)

**Theresa Woodyard, Northern Region**

[Theresa.Woodyard@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Theresa.Woodyard@vdh.virginia.gov)

Visit us online at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/viis>