



Kentucky Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

January 7, 2026

Dear Colleague:

The Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) is committed to protecting the health and safety of all people in our commonwealth, including through access to vaccines. **KDPH continues to recommend that health care providers follow the child and adolescent immunization schedules published by the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) and the [American Academy of Family Physicians](#) and that families consult with their health care providers to make informed decisions about their health.**

Modifications to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's (CDC's) childhood vaccine recommendations on January 5th represent a change in how certain immunizations are categorized within the federal schedule. These modifications did not follow the long-established steps that are critical to setting vaccine policy, such as comprehensive scientific review, public deliberation and evidence-based decision making.

The scientific evidence supporting childhood immunization has not changed. Vaccines are one of the most effective, rigorously studied and life-saving tools in modern medicine. Changes to vaccine schedules should be based in science and involve careful deliberation by pediatricians and other health care experts.

All vaccines recommended by CDC as of December 31, 2025, remain covered by the Vaccines for Children Program and by insurance plans subject to the Affordable Care Act, including Medicaid, without cost sharing. Additionally, Kentucky's school and childcare immunization requirements remain unchanged by any federal action to date, including the recent federal reorganization of the CDC schedule. These [state requirements](#) are established in state law and in regulations, including [902 KAR 2:060](#).

KDPH remains committed to sharing evidence-based vaccination guidance developed by medical experts and national professional organizations and increasing access to vaccines for all people. Vaccines protect not only individuals but also our schools, workplaces and communities. Providers should continue to follow existing state requirements and professional society guidance unless otherwise notified. For more information about KDPH's immunization recommendations, please contact the KDPH Immunization Branch at (502) 564-3418 or your local health department.

Thank you,

John R. Langefeld, MD
Commissioner
Kentucky Department for Public Health

Kathleen Winter, PhD, MPH
State Epidemiologist
Kentucky Department for Public Health

Our Mission: To improve the health and safety of people in Kentucky through **Prevention, Promotion and Protection**

Our Vision: Healthier People, Healthier Communities.

Our REACH Values: Responsiveness Equity Accountability Collaboration Honesty

