



Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Kristina Box, MD, FACOG
State Health Commissioner

February 14, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) believes that protecting Indiana's citizens from vaccine-preventable diseases is one of the most important roles of public health. [Indiana Code \(IC\) 20-34-4-2](#) charges ISDH to set and publish vaccine requirements for school entry for children attending accredited public and private schools in our state.

Indiana began experiencing a hepatitis A outbreak in November 2017 that has resulted in 2,359 cases, 1,312 hospitalizations and 4 deaths to date. In July 2019, a school vaccine requirements advisory group that included the Indiana State Department of Health-Immunization Division, Indiana Department of Education, the Indiana Association of School Nurses, the Indiana Immunization Coalition, and the Indiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics unanimously agreed to require two valid doses of hepatitis A vaccine for all grades, including schools with pre-kindergarten programs, beginning in the fall of the 2020-2021 school year.

The hepatitis A vaccine is a two-dose series that is routinely recommended beginning at 12 months of age. This two-dose series requires at least six months between doses. This vaccine series is safe and effective at preventing hepatitis A, a highly contagious viral liver infection.

Please make an appointment with your healthcare provider to begin and/or complete the series for your child. We encourage you to discuss any other age-appropriate vaccines for your child that may be needed to protect them from disease and cancer, including influenza, human papillomavirus (HPV), and meningitis B.

If you have questions about your child's immunization history, ISDH established an online tool in 2012 that allows individuals to access their immunization records, known as [MyVaxIndiana](#). This tool enables individuals to view and print their immunization records after receiving a secure, personal identification number (PIN) for a healthcare provider. Please ask your healthcare provider to help you gain access.

Yours in health,

Dave McCormick

Director, Immunization Division



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To promote, protect, and
improve the health and safety
of all Hoosiers.