

Meningococcal ACWY Immunization Requirement

The State of Iowa has passed a new law, requiring meningococcal (ACWY) vaccine for students entering grades 7, 8, 9, and 12, beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

Meningococcal disease is very serious. The vaccines are very safe and effective at preventing meningococcal disease. This vaccine requirement will assist in protecting the health of adolescents, friends, families, and communities.

The new law requires a one-time dose of meningococcal (ACWY) vaccine received on or after 10 years of age for students in grades 7 and above, if born after September 15, 2004; and 2 doses of meningococcal (ACWY) vaccines for students entering grade 12, if born after September 15, 1999; or 1 dose if received when the students are 16 years of age or older.

The required vaccine may be obtained through your student's healthcare provider. We strongly urge you to complete the requirement as soon as possible. Students will not be allowed a provisional immunization certificate if they have not received at least one dose. Therefore, **students must have submitted proof of the receiving the vaccine before the first day of school or they must be excluded from attending school.**

The UMS and UHS School Nurses will be mailing letters home for those students entering grades 7, 8, 9, and 12 that will need the vaccine before school starts. Please provide documentation of the completed vaccine and date to the nurse.