

## Tdap Requirement

Beginning the fall of 2013, and all future school years, the State of Iowa requires **all students entering, advancing, or transferring into 7th through 12th grades, and born on or after September 15, 2000**, to provide proof of an adolescent tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough) booster immunization known as Tdap.

Tdap is a booster vaccine for older children, adolescents, and adults. It safely protects against three dangerous diseases: tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough). This requirement will help protect your child and others from whooping cough. Recently, whooping cough has been increasing in the United States and in Iowa. The required booster will better protect children during their school years and assist with protection of those within the home, community, and school.

The Tdap vaccine is routinely recommended for adolescents 11-12 years of age and can be administered as young as 10 years of age. Many students have already received this vaccine. Please contact your health care provider to determine your student's status.

**If your child has received the Tdap, we need verification.** Documentation of the Tdap vaccine on the Iowa Certificate of Immunization should be provided to Urbandale Middle School or Urbandale High School with registration this spring.

**If your student has not received the vaccine, the Tdap booster may be obtained through your local healthcare provider or through Polk County Health Department.** Polk County Health Department may be reached at 286-3798, and an appointment is required. Documentation of the Tdap vaccine on the Iowa Certificate of Immunization must then be provided to the school prior to the first day of school. **This state requirement will be enforced.**

**We encourage you to meet this requirement as soon as possible and submit an Iowa Certificate of Immunization, including the date of the Tdap, to the School Nurse.**

**Please feel free to contact the school nurse with any questions.**

**UMS Nurse 457-6606**

**UHS Nurse 457-6806**