



TOOL 3

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR IMMIGRANTS

DGMQ and Vaccines

CDC's Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DGMQ) writes Technical Instructions for medical examinations of immigrants and refugees. Proof of vaccination is a required part of the immigrant assessment to protect the public and individuals from specific preventable diseases.

Vaccination Criteria for Immigrants

Vaccines listed by name in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) are required for immigrants. For vaccines not mentioned in the INA, DGMQ uses the criteria below to review ACIP*-recommended vaccines at regular periods, as needed, to decide which vaccines are required for U.S. immigration:

- The vaccine must be age-appropriate for the immigrant applicant, AND
- The vaccine must protect against a disease that has the potential to cause an outbreak, OR
- The vaccine must protect against a disease that has been eliminated or is in the process of being eliminated in the United States.

**ACIP: Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. ACIP recommends vaccines for the U.S. population. These ACIP recommendations are used to help decide which age-appropriate routine and catch-up vaccines are required for immigrant applicants.*

To determine which vaccines are required of an immigrant applicant the panel physician must refer to

- (1) The Technical Instruction vaccination table located on the back of this tool and at <http://www.cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/exams/ti/panel/vaccination-panel-technical-instructions.html> and
- (2) The ACIP immunization schedules and their footnotes at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>

For immigration purposes, required vaccines are denoted by the "all persons" (gold) and "catch-up" (blue-green) bars in the ACIP schedules

Vaccination Requirements for Immigrants

Proof of vaccination against these diseases is required:

- Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib)
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Influenza
- Measles, Mumps, and Rubella
- Meningococcal Disease
- Pneumococcal Disease
- Polio
- Rotavirus
- Tetanus, Pertussis, and Diphtheria
- Varicella

The human papillomavirus (HPV) and zoster vaccines included in the ACIP schedules are NOT required for immigrants.

General Vaccination Tips

- For vaccines that entail a series of doses, only one dose is required for admission to the United States.
- If an applicant's medical exam expires, vaccination status must be re-assessed at re-examination, and any vaccine doses due (whether part of a series or an individual dose), must be administered.
- Multiple vaccines may be given simultaneously, but multiple body sites should be used. There is no limit to the number of vaccines that may be given simultaneously (except if the applicant has anatomic or functional asplenia).

Department of State (DS)-3025 Vaccination Documentation Worksheet

- The panel physician should not sign the Worksheet until after vaccines are administered.
- Most applicants will require a blanket waiver (no application needed).
- The panel physician should provide a copy of the DS-3025 Worksheet directly to each applicant, in addition to the original DS-3025 Worksheet and any copies provided to the Consular Section.



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Table: Requirements for routine vaccination of immigrants examined overseas who are not fully vaccinated or lack documentation

Vaccine	Age						
	Birth-1 month	2-11 months	12 months-6 years	7-10 years	11-17 years	18-64 years	≥65 years
DTP/DTaP/DT	NO	YES			NO		
Td/Tdap	NO			YES, substitute 1-time dose of Tdap for Td booster; then boost with Td every 10 yrs			
Polio (IPV/OPV)	NO		YES				NO
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella		NO		YES, if born in 1957 or later			
Rotavirus*	NO	YES 6 weeks to 8 months		NO			
Hib	NO		YES 2 through 59 months old			NO	
Hepatitis A		NO	YES 12 through 23 months old			NO	
Hepatitis B			YES, through 18 years old				NO
Meningococcal (MCV)			NO		YES 11 through 18 years old		NO
Varicella			NO		YES		
Pneumococcal	NO		YES, 2 through 59 months old (administer PCV)		NO		YES, administer either PCV or PPSV depending on vaccination history
Influenza		NO	YES, ≥ 6 months (annually each flu season in country of exam).				

DTP= pediatric formulation diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccine; DTaP= pediatric formulation diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine; DT=pediatric formulation diphtheria and tetanus toxoids; Td=adult formulation tetanus and diphtheria toxoids; Tdap=adolescent and adult formulation tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (Boostrix for persons ≥ 10 years old; Adacel for persons 11through 64 years old); IPV=inactivated poliovirus vaccine (killed); OPV=oral poliovirus vaccine (live); Hib=Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine; MCV=meningococcal conjugate vaccine; PCV=pneumococcal conjugate vaccine; PPSV=pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine. *Rotavirus vaccination should not be initiated for infants aged 15 weeks 0 days or older.

