

New for  
2016-17  
School Year

# Parents:

All kids entering 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade must have the meningococcal vaccine.

**Without it, they can't start school.**

## About the Vaccine:

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- It's not a new vaccine. It's been recommended for a decade.
- Most parents already choose to vaccinate their children.
- What's new is that the vaccine will be **required** for school entry as of Sept. 1, 2016.

## About Meningococcal Disease:

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- It causes **bacterial meningitis** and other serious diseases.
- Teens and young adults are at greater risk.
- It comes on quickly and without warning.
- Its symptoms are similar to the flu.
- Every case of this disease can result in death or long-term disability.

Check with your doctor. Even kids who have had a shot before may need a booster to start school.

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To learn more, visit  
[health.ny.gov/immunize](http://health.ny.gov/immunize)

**Immunization Is Protection.**



Department  
of Health