

Immunization Information for Grade 7 and 8 Students

2025/2026 School Year

Dear Parents/Guardians of students in **Grade 7 and 8**,

Halton Region Public Health provides immunization clinics for Grade 7 and 8 students at Public, Private, Catholic and French schools across the region.

Starting this 2025-2026 school year, and continuing in future years, public health nurses will be visiting each school **once** during the school year to offer the vaccines listed below to Grade 7 students, and to provide additional doses to Grade 8 students who have not completed their vaccine series.

All school clinics will be scheduled to run between **October 6, 2025**, and **January 19, 2026**. **There will no longer be a second clinic at each school in the spring**, therefore students can receive missed or additional doses of the Meningococcal, HPV and Hepatitis B vaccines through their primary care provider, at a public health community immunization clinic, or at a school clinic when the student is in Grade 8.

The following vaccines will be offered to eligible students who have a consent form signed by a parent or legal guardian:

Vaccines available at school clinics	Requirement or Recommendation
Meningococcal Conjugate-ACYW-135	Required for school attendance (single-dose vaccine)
Human Papillomavirus – HPV	Recommended (two-dose vaccine)
Hepatitis B – HB	Recommended (two-dose vaccine)

For Parents/Guardians of Grade 7 students:

1. **Read** the [vaccine fact sheet](#) (also available in [Urdu](#), [Chinese](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), [Punjabi](#), [Arabic](#), [Hindi](#)) and FAQs on the page following this letter.
2. **Complete** the paper consent form provided by the school, indicating the vaccines you would like your child to receive. If you do not receive a consent form from the school, please **print and complete** a consent form from halton.ca/immunize indicating the vaccines you would like your child to receive.

Regional Municipality of Halton

HEAD OFFICE: 1151 Bronte Rd, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1

905-825-6000 | Toll free: 1-866-442-5866

3. **Return** the completed consent form to your child's school by **Tuesday, September 23, 2025**. Only students with a signed consent form will be immunized on the day of the clinic. You will be notified of the clinic date by your child's school. Clinic dates can also be found on [Halton's School-based Immunizations webpage](#).

For Parents/Guardians of Grade 8 students:

1. **Read** the [vaccine fact sheet](#) (also available in [Urdu](#), [Chinese](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), [Punjabi](#), [Arabic](#), [Hindi](#)) and FAQs on the page following this letter.
2. If you submitted a consent form in the 2024/2025 school year, you **do not** need to submit a new form. The consent form you previously submitted is valid for the duration of time needed to give a complete series of the vaccine(s). If you wish to verify, update or revoke your consent, please email accesshalton@halton.ca or call 311 to speak with a nurse. If you **did not** submit a consent form in the 2024/2025 school year and you would like your child to receive one or more of the vaccines listed above, please **print and complete** a consent form from halton.ca/immunize indicating the vaccines you would like your child to receive.
3. **Return** the completed consent form to your child's school by **Tuesday, September 23, 2025**. You will be notified of the clinic date by your child's school. Clinic dates can also be found on [Halton's School-based Immunizations webpage](#).

Update your child's immunization record: Your child may have already received one or more of the vaccines listed above. Every time your child gets an immunization from their health care provider, you need to update Halton Region Public Health. Your health care provider's office does not report these for you. Public Health nurses will review your child's immunization record and vaccinate only if required.

To report immunizations:



Visit halton.ca/immunize



Call 311



Mail to the Halton Regional
Centre, 1151 Bronte Road,
Oakville, L6M 3L1

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are these vaccines being offered now?

These vaccines are routinely offered to Grade 7 students in schools as part of Halton Region Public Health's regular immunization programming. Completing all routine immunizations helps protect students, families and the community against disease, reducing unnecessary medical visits, hospitalizations and further strain on the health care system.

What happens if I don't want this vaccination for my child?

Meningococcal ACYW-135 is a *required* vaccine as per the [Immunization of School Pupils Act \(ISPA\)](#). If your child does not receive this vaccine, you will need to obtain a vaccine exemption from Halton Region Public Health for your child to continue attending school. To learn more, visit halton.ca/immunize or call 311.

The human papillomavirus (HPV) and hepatitis B vaccines are *recommended* for students but are not mandatory for school attendance. Therefore, a vaccine exemption is not required for students who do not receive these vaccines.

If you choose not to vaccinate and later decide to do so after school clinics have taken place, your child can receive these vaccines through their primary care provider or at community clinics. Hepatitis B and HPV vaccines are offered free of charge until the student graduates from Grade 12. To learn more, visit halton.ca/immunize or call 311.

What happens if my child misses a second dose of the hepatitis B or HPV vaccine?

Students can catch-up on second doses of both the hepatitis B and HPV vaccines without needing to restart the series. The second dose is recommended to be given a minimum of six months after the first dose, however a longer than recommended interval between doses will provide the same immunity.

Is it safe to receive more than one vaccine at the same time?

Yes. These vaccines have been safely administered together for many years, along with other routine childhood vaccinations. Receiving multiple vaccines at once ensures that students are protected against serious diseases as early as possible.

What can I do if my child is nervous about receiving vaccines?

Talk to your child about the vaccines they will be receiving and explain that vaccines protect them from certain diseases. Encourage your child to share any concerns they may have. Review and practice helpful ways to stay calm (e.g. count to ten, take slow and deep breaths, look away from the needle). Visit immunize.ca for more information about [preparing your child for their vaccinations](#).

Will the COVID-19 vaccine be available at school clinics?

No. Visit halton.ca/immunize to find out where your child can receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

For more Frequently Asked Questions and information, visit halton.ca/immunize.