



JAMES V. McDONALD, MD, MPH  
Commissioner



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE

Michelle Morse, MD, MPH  
*Acting Health Commissioner*

January 28, 2026

Dear Colleague:

On Monday, January 26, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) published the **Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule: United States, 2026**. This evidence based schedule recommends routine immunization for protection against **18 diseases**, including RSV, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, rotavirus, influenza, and meningococcal disease.

**The New York State Department of Health and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC Health Department) endorse the 2026 AAP immunization schedule and encourage its use in daily practice.**

- **Providers** can access the AAP schedule at <https://aap.org/ImmunizationSchedule>.
- **Families** can find information and schedules at <https://healthychildren.org/immunizationschedules>.
- There are no changes to New York State and New York City school immunization requirements and related policies, vaccine access, insurance coverage, or the Vaccines for Children Program (VFC).

**While the 2026 AAP recommendations remain largely consistent with prior AAP guidance issued in August 2025, they differ from the recently updated immunization schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).** Recent changes to the CDC immunization schedule depart from longstanding scientific evidence and are unfounded and unreliable. By contrast, the AAP childhood and adolescent immunization schedules continue to recommend immunizations based on rigorous research and the specific disease risks and health care delivery context in the U.S.

The AAP schedule has been formally endorsed by 12 leading medical and healthcare organizations: American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM), American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG), American Medical Association (AMA), American Pharmacists Association (APhA), Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS), Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP), National Medical Association (NMA), Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (PIDS), Pediatric Pharmacy Association (PPA), and Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine (SAHM).

New York's immunization policies are based on peer reviewed research and public health expertise, ensuring the best protection against preventable diseases for children, families, and communities. By endorsing the AAP schedule, we reaffirm our commitment to these principles. We appreciate your continued partnership in safeguarding the health and well-being of New York's children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James V. McDonald, M.D., M.P.H.".

James V. McDonald, M.D., M.P.H.  
New York State Health Commissioner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Morse, M.D., M.P.H.".

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New York City Health Commissioner