To: New Mexico Public and Private School Superintendents, Charter School Administrators, School Principals, School Nurses, and Vaccines for Children (VFC) Providers

Re: New Mexico 2024-2025 School Entry Immunization Requirements

Each year the Vaccine Advisory Group (VAG) meets to discuss New Mexico School Entry Immunization Requirements. Any changes are thoughtfully discussed and voted on by a group of appointed, experienced immunization professionals. These changes are based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) annual recommendations. The VAG makes recommendations, and the Cabinet Secretary makes final decisions which the Public Health Division supervises.

The schedule continues to incorporate changes related to the grade phasing-in process for required vaccinations. Two doses of Hepatitis A vaccine will now be required, rolled up to K-3rd grade.

The age cutoff for childcare/pre-school requirements has been simplified to “by 47 months” or “by 54 months” as opposed to a range of months.

This year, we have pushed the 2nd Meningococcal vaccine dose requirement from 11th to 12th grade to avoid the possibility of vaccine being administered before age 16.

At this time, HPV, COVID-19 and Influenza vaccines are not required for school entry but will continue to be strongly recommended at the appropriate ages as is best practice.

Acceptable forms of proof of immunization status includes a NMSIIS printout, printout from provider’s Electronic Medical Record or immunization record card.

NOTE: School vaccine requirements are still in force if students are enrolled in online studies, home schooling or other adaptations due to COVID-19. Thank you for keeping New Mexico’s children safe from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Patrick M. Allen
Cabinet Secretary

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