

Polio:

What Parents Should Know for Students Attending Kindergarten through 12th Grade in Ohio.



Don't let polio make a comeback.

Before the polio vaccine, polio was one of the most feared diseases in the U.S.

Polio can cause:

- Muscle pain and weakness.
- Trouble moving arms or legs.
- Breathing problems.
- Sometimes, it can even be deadly.



Even though polio is rare in the U.S., it can come back.

Getting the vaccine helps protect your child — and others too.

Call your or your child's doctor immediately if you think you or someone in your family has symptoms of polio.



Two children with polio receiving physical therapy. Photo is courtesy of Centers for Disease Control And Prevention.



WHY GET THE POLIO SHOT?

There is no cure for polio. But the polio vaccine is a safe way to stop your child from getting sick. It has been used for many years and helps keep kids healthy.

Polio vaccine is the best way to protect your child against polio.

- **Four doses recommended:**

- o First dose at 2 months.
- o Second dose at 4 months.
- o Third dose at 6-18 months.
- o Fourth dose at 4-6 years.

It's not too late to get the vaccine!

If your child is starting school and hasn't had their shots, that's okay—there's still time. Talk to your doctor or health clinic to see what your child needs to stay healthy.

A strong start to the school year begins with protection!

Polio vaccines are available at:

- Many doctor's offices.
- **Local Health Departments.**
- Pharmacies (check with location based on your child's age).

K-12 school vaccine requirements in Ohio:

- **Ohio Revised Code 3313.671** requires students to be fully protected against 10 vaccine-preventable diseases, including polio.



Your child may be able to get vaccines for free or at a low cost through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. Check with your local health department to see if your child is eligible.

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