



South Central Public Health District
 1020 Washington Street North
 Twin Falls, ID 83301
 866-710-9775
www.phd5.idaho.gov



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brianna Bodily, Public Information Officer (208) 737-5985

Health Officials remind families to get their vaccinations now to avoid the back-to-school rush

MAGIC VALLEY - The South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) recognizes August as National Immunization Awareness Month and is encouraging parents to have their children immunized now to avoid the back-to-school rush.

Children are required to have several immunizations before entering kindergarten and seventh grade. Most colleges and universities also require future students to receive immunizations before enrolling. Parents of children at all ages are encouraged to review their children’s immunization record to make sure they meet CDC guidelines, and their students are ready for the upcoming school year. If you can’t find those records the SCPHD can check them for you.

“Immunizations are the best way to protect your children from the infectious diseases that vaccines are designed to prevent,” said Cheryl Becker, SCPHD Public Health Division Administrator. “This is the best way to keep your child healthy.”

The following vaccines are required for children entering preschool and grades K-12: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), measles, mumps, rubella, polio, varicella (chickenpox) and hepatitis B. Students entering college should check with health services at their college to make sure they meet requirements.

“Our goal is to exceed the CDC’s minimum requirements for childhood vaccinations,” said Christi Dawson-Skuza, SCPHD Public Health Nurse. “We want to decrease vaccine preventable illnesses so we can have a healthier community.”

Immunizations are free until a child turns 18, and only cost a small fee to administer. The South Central Health District will be at 10 schools for seventh grade registration this August, and holds weekly immunization clinics around the Magic Valley. Call your local office to see when they are holding a clinic in your area.

Twin Falls Office: 737-5966
 1020 Washington St. N.
 Twin Falls, ID 83301

Bellevue Office: 788-4335
 117 East Ash Street
 Bellevue, ID 83313

Jerome Office: 324-8838
 951 East Avenue H
 Jerome, ID 83338

Gooding Office: 934-4477
 255 North Canyon Drive
 Gooding, ID 83330

Heyburn Office: 678-8221
 485 22nd Street
 Heyburn, ID 83336

To learn more about vaccinations visit our website: <https://phd5.idaho.gov/Immunizations/Index.htm>

Follow the District on Twitter at @SCPHD and on Facebook. For more information about the South Central Health District please visit phd5.idaho.gov.

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