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## **Southeast District Health Department Reminds Parents to Get Immunizations**

“It is time to begin preparing your children for the upcoming school year, and up-to-date immunizations are a part of the process,” says Kay Oestmann, Director of the Southeast District Health Department.

All 50 states and the District of Columbia have immunization requirements for children entering school. In Nebraska, children can't attend classes in public or private school until the school has written proof of their immunization status.

Immunizations are one of the most effective and cost efficient ways to prevent disease. For every dollar spent on immunizations, you can save as much as \$29.00 in direct and indirect health costs. Vaccine-preventable disease has declined by over 99% since the introduction of vaccines.

To attend school, children in Nebraska are required to be immunized against the following diseases:

- Diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis
- Polio
- Measles, mumps, and rubella
- Hepatitis B
- Varicella (chicken pox)

The Southeast District Health Department (SEDHD) Immunization Program provides vaccines to vaccinate children from birth through 18 years old. The goal of the Immunization program is to help communities provide a local preventative health program designed to meet each area's individual needs while maintaining quality of service. The childhood and adolescent immunization schedule and information on specific vaccine-preventable diseases can be found at [www.sedhd.org](http://www.sedhd.org). To receive immunizations or more information contact the SEDHD at 877.777.0424 or [www.sedhd.org](http://www.sedhd.org).