

Re: School Immunization Program

As part of the school immunization program, some vaccines are available free of charge to Secondary III students.

In Quebec, the legal age of consent for immunization and other healthcare services is 14 years. Your child is, therefore, able to give consent on his or her own behalf for immunizations offered through such programs.

You will find below information to help you assist your child with the consent process. For more information about immunization and vaccine-preventable diseases, you can also refer to the immunization section of the Quebec government website at the following address: [Quebec.ca/vaccination](https://quebec.ca/vaccination).

VACCINE AVAILABILITY

Immunizations at Lake-of-Two-Mountains High School will take place on **November 19, 2024**.

On the day of the immunization, ensure that your child has his or her immunization record handy for it to be updated accordingly.

They can be vaccinated against diphtheria and tetanus, as well as meningococcus and hepatitis B. A health insurance card is not required.

Diphtheria and Tetanus Vaccine

The diphtheria and tetanus vaccine administered to Secondary III students confers protection against both these diseases. Because of the severity of these two serious bacterial diseases, infants are immunized against them at 2 months. To maintain protection against diphtheria and tetanus, Secondary III students are being offered a booster dose.

Meningococcal Vaccine

Meningococcus is a bacterium that can cause serious infections such as meningitis and septicemia (infection of the blood). Children receive a dose of the meningococcal vaccine in infancy. However, since adolescence is an at-risk period for meningitis, Quebec experts recommend that Secondary III students receive an additional vaccine dose.

Hepatitis B Vaccine

Hepatitis B is an infection of the liver caused by a virus, which can lead to complications such as permanent liver infection. A dose of hepatitis B vaccine using the combined hepatitis A and B vaccine was administered in Grade 4. The 2nd dose of hepatitis B vaccine is scheduled for the 3rd year of secondary school.

**2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR
TO PARENTS OF SECONDARY III STUDENTS**

Immunization record updates

When immunizing your child, the nurse will check the immunization record in order to ensure it is up to date for all diseases: diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, polio, measles, rubella (German measles), mumps, meningococcal infections, chicken pox, hepatitis A, hepatitis B and HPV infections. If the record is not up to date, the nurse can then recommend the missing vaccines. If additional doses are necessary, please make an appointment at the local point of service are on [**Clicsante.ca**](https://clicsante.ca).

Your child received one dose of HPV vaccine in Grade 4, and the 2nd dose was due in Secondary 3. However, Quebec experts now recommend a single-dose HPV vaccine schedule. This schedule offers a high level of protection similar to that provided by a 2-dose schedule, so the 2nd dose scheduled for the 3rd year of high school is no longer required. However, if your child has not already received a dose, he or she will be able to receive it this year.

There is no risk in receiving several vaccines at the same time. It is a safe practice done throughout the entire world. For good protection, receipt of all required doses is important.

Your child will receive an information leaflet on possible reactions the vaccines may cause and measures to relieve them. These reactions can appear within 24 to 72 hours after immunization and are short-lived.

Thank you for your cooperation.

The school nursing teams
Infirmieres.scolaires.lddm.cisslau@ssss.gouv.qc.ca