



## REMINDER

### *Important Message to Parents with Adolescents Entering 9th Grade*

## Immunization Requirements

In accordance with the Rhode Island Department of Health *Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Immunization and Testing for Communicable Diseases* (R23-1-IMM), all adolescents entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade are required to have the following immunizations:

- **Two (2) or three (3) doses of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine**

#### **Who should receive 2 doses?**

Two doses are recommended for adolescents who are beginning the vaccination series before age 15. The second dose should be administered between 6 to 12 months after the first (first dose, second between 6 to 12 months later).

#### **Who should receive 3 doses?**

Three doses are recommended for adolescents who are starting the vaccination series at 15 years of age or later, and for people with weak immune systems due to certain conditions. The second dose should be administered between 1 to 2 months after the first, and the third at 6 months after the first (first dose, second 1 to 2 months later and the third 6 months after the first)

All adolescents entering the 9th grade, have to be up to date with their vaccines.

#### **Important reminder about flu vaccination:**

An annual influenza (flu) vaccination is **RECOMMENDED** for all students. Influenza vaccine is available from October through April each year. Be sure to ask your doctor about flu vaccine.

**For more information, please visit:** [www.health.ri.gov/immunization/for/schools](http://www.health.ri.gov/immunization/for/schools)