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# **Parents:**

## All kids entering **7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade** must have the **meningococcal vaccine.**

## Without it, they can't start school.

#### About the Vaccine:

- It's not a new vaccine. It's been recommended for a decade.
- Most parents already choose to vaccinate their children.
- What's new is that the vaccine will be **required** for school entry as of Sept. 1, 2016.

#### About Meningococcal Disease:

- It causes bacterial meningitis and other serious diseases.
- Teens and young adults are at greater risk.
- It comes on quickly and without warning.
- Its symptoms are similar to the flu.
- Every case of this disease can result in death or long-term disability.

Check with your doctor. Even kids who have had a shot before may need a booster to start school.

To learn more, visit health.ny.gov/immunize

### Immunization is Protection.

