Immunizations must be up-to-date before the first day of school

Northside ISD is enforcing its "No Shots, No School" policy, which means students who are not up-to-date on immunizations will not be allowed to attend classes when the 2012-13 school year begins Aug. 27.

Texas law requires all public school children to have current immunizations in order to attend class.

Students who come to school and don't have up-to-date shots will have to wait in the school office for their parents to pick them up and take them to get their shots.

"The closer we get to the start of school, the longer the lines get at the doctor's offices and city health department," Northside Health Services Director Shirley Schreiber said. "Please take care of your children's shots now and avoid a long wait."

For a complete list of immunization clinics in San Antonio, call San Antonio Metro Health at 207-8750. For additional information about immunization services, visit the San Antonio Metro Health website.

Required immunizations for 2012-13 include:

DTP/DTaP/DT/TD/Tdap: Five doses required for entry of kindergarten students unless the fourth dose was received on or after the 4th birthday. Students age 7, starting their vaccine, are required to have three doses. One booster dose of a Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis-containing vaccine is required for entry into 7th grade if at least 5 years have passed since the last dose of a Tetanus-containing vaccine. Grades 8-12 require a booster dose of Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis-containing vaccine every 10 years.

Polio: Four Doses of IPV required for kindergarten students unless the third dose was received after the 4th birthday. It can be any combination of OPV or IPV. Not required of 18-year old students.

Measles/Mumps/Rubella: Two doses of MMR are required. The first dose shall be administered on or after the 1st birthday. The second dose to be administered by age 5 or entry into kindergarten.

HIB: Three doses of Haemophilus Influenza type B vaccine and a booster if given before the child is 15 months or one dose of vaccine if given after 15 months. HIB vaccine is given through 4 years of age.

Hepatitis Type A: Two doses of Hepatitis A are required for students in grades PK, K, 1, 2, and 3. The second dose of Hepatitis A is administered six months after the administration of the first dose.

Hepatitis Type B: Three doses of Hepatitis B are required for kindergarten through 12th grade.

Varicella (Chicken Pox): Two doses of Varicella vaccine received on or after the 1st birthday are required for students in grades K, 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, and 10. Two doses are required if the student was 13 years of age at the time the first dose of Varicella was received. If the student has had Varicella (Chicken Pox) illness, please request a form from the school nurse to validate illness.

Pneumococcal (PCV7): PCV7 is mandated for all students 3 through 4 years of age. The school nurse will evaluate the number of doses needed or if child is complete.

Menactra (Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine): This vaccine protects students 11 years of age and older from Meningitis. One dose is required for students in grades 7, 8, 9 and 10.

State law allows physicians to write a statement that the required vaccines pose a significant risk to the health and well-being of the child. Parents may request an exemption from immunization requirements for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. For more information about exemptions, call the Texas Department of Health at (800) 252-9152.