



DCPS Getting Ready for Your Child Next Year ---

As we wrap up this school year, we are already gearing up for next school year. Below are a few things for you to keep in mind to be prepared for your child's first day of school in August.

Fill out and submit your child's enrollment packet in June.

- Please be sure to bring your completed enrollment packets to the school your child attended during this past school year, so we will be ready for your child at the beginning of school in August.
- Enroll your child even if his or her immunizations are not yet up to date. Complete immunizations are required to attend school, but DCPS students can enroll if their new immunizations are not yet up to date.
- You can find all enrollment information and forms at <http://www.k12.dc.us/enrollment/enroll.htm>. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school directly or the Office of School Operations at 202-442-5007 or 202-535-1328.

Make sure your child's immunizations are up to date.

- **There are six new immunization requirements!** Information about these, and all health and immunization forms can be found at <http://www.k12.dc.us/enrollment/enroll.htm>, or they can be picked up from the school registrar at your child's school.
- We encourage you to get all of your child's immunizations, as well as their health certificate and oral health assessment, turned into the school registrar over the summer so that we can be ready for your child, and your child will be ready for school. Please do not wait until after school has started.
- If their immunizations are out of date, schedule your child's appointments with their physicians soon.
- Schools will now accept health certificates for physicals issued any time after August 24, 2008, one year prior to the start of school, instead of 150 days prior to the start of school as in previous years.

Complete the Free and Reduced Meals forms, even if you think your child does not qualify for free and reduced meals.

- Beginning next school year (2009-2010), **students who do not complete an application will be required to pay for meals.**
- Free and Reduced Meal forms should be returned to your child's school as part of their enrollment packet as soon as possible.
- Free and Reduced Meal application forms are available online at <http://www.k12.dc.us/enrollment/enroll.htm> and at your child's school (instructions are included).

If your child has special needs...

- Future mailings will include updates and information for you. If you have immediate concerns, there will be staff available at your child's school this summer to assist you in ensuring he or she receives the proper supports and services. However, if you have difficulties and need additional help, the Office of Special Education has a Critical Response Team (CRT) to help parents. You can reach this team at (202) 442-5400.

Be ready for more information and materials from us this summer.

- We will mail you additional information that will help you get ready for the first day of school in mid-July and mid-August.
- We will also use the Connect Ed phone call system during the summer to communicate important reminders.
- Information specifically related to the first day of school will be available at www.k12.dc.us/firstday. Check for frequent updates.

We hope that you all have great, safe summers, and we look forward to seeing you when you return to school. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact the central office at 202-442-5885.