



## Lee County **New shots needed for back to school**

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Just like backpacks and brown bagged lunches immunization shots are synonymous with back to school.

This year, students need several new shots to attend school.

For kindergarteners and first graders they must have received two rounds of the Vericella Vaccine which is for chicken pox.

For 7th graders, they now need a T-Dap Vaccine or another tetanus booster. It's possible some children will have this. But now they need it for school.

All the shots must be done by the first day of school. Without the blue form filled out kids cannot start classes.

Officials with the Lee County Health Department says people do tend to procrastinate.

Nurses gave out almost 600 shots last year on the first day of school because parents waited too long.

Getting the shots now is faster and prevents future problems.

"We didn't want to wait until the last second," says mom Jennifer Behnert while at the health department with her son getting shots, "something could happen. They run out or they couldn't get us in then he wouldn't be able to start school."

The only difference between the shots from the health department and a doctor's office is the cost. The same shots from your physician are free at the health department.

"It saves lives and keeps the disease from spreading. It is important and it doesn't make sense not to get it," says Behnert.

For those kids scared of needles, "don't be afraid. They don't hurt," says London Fagan right after he got his shots.

Check out these websites for more information.

[www.immunize.org](http://www.immunize.org)

<http://www3.leegov.com/healthdept>

For times of the free immunizations clinics call the Lee County Health Department at:  
(239) 332-9601 or (239) 656-2597

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