



BACK TO SCHOOL 2016

General Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

When does school start?

Monday, August 15

What school will my child attend?

The school a child attends is based on the parent/guardian's home address. Parents may call the Boundary Office at (561) 434-8100 or visit PalmBeachSchools.org and click on the [Find My School](#) tab on the right side of the page to find the appropriate school for your child.

When should students register for school?

New students should call their home school to register as soon as possible.

How can I find information about the school my child will attend?

To obtain specific information about Palm Beach County Schools contact the school directly. To obtain contact information for the individual schools visit www.palmbeachschools.org/showcase. Or contact the Office of Community Engagement at (561) 357-7572.

How can I ask to have my child attend another school?

You may complete a Student Reassignment Form ([PBSD 0249](#)). Requests are considered based upon space availability and the school's diversity goals. Valid reasons for transferring a student include supervision hardship, health reasons, change of legal residence, allowing a senior to finish the year at the school he or she had been attending, and transfers that improve the racial balance of both schools involved. For more information visit the [Student Reassignment](#) page or call (561) 434-8755.

What are the school hours?

School hours vary from 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. to 9:30 a.m.-4:05 p.m. Visit www.palmbeachschools.org/showcase/ for your school's hours, or you may also contact the school directly.

How can I find out what bus my child will ride and what time it will arrive?

Each school has its own bus routes, schedules and a bus coordinator. Schedules are generally ready about one week before school and are available by calling the school your child will attend or by visiting the Transportation website at www.palmbeachschools.org/transportation/ and click on "[Find My Bus Stop](#)".

I need supervision for my child before or after school. What do I do?

Most elementary schools have School-Age Child Care (SACC) programs in the morning and afternoon for students whose parents work or need extended care. Visit the Afterschool Programming website at www.palmbeachschools.org/afterschoolprogramming/ or call (561) 687-6387.



What are Choice programs? Where are they? How do I register my child for one?

Families with students entering Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 have the opportunity to choose from more than 280 Choice and Career Programs offered at the elementary, middle, and high school levels that provide innovative and rigorous academic instruction by specially trained teachers. For details contact the Department of Choice Programs and School Choice at (561) 434-8755 or visit www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms/.

What about breakfast and lunch?

Breakfast and lunch are served daily at all schools.

Breakfast is FREE TO ALL STUDENTS AT ALL SCHOOLS.

Lunch at elementary schools: \$2.05 per day full price; 40 cents per day reduced price.

Lunch at secondary schools: \$2.30 per day full price, 40 cents per day reduced price. Adult lunch: \$3.00

Under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, free and reduced price meals are available to students who qualify. Application forms are now available online at www.palmbeachschools.org/sfs or call the School Food Service Office at (888) 383-2025 for more information.

My child needs special help with a learning disability. What do I do?

Contact the Exceptional Student Education (ESE) coordinator at your school. If your child is not in an exceptional student education program, the ESE coordinator will arrange a meeting of the Child Study Team (CST) at the school. With your input, the CST will develop a plan to assist your child. If your child needs additional support, the CST will request your permission to evaluate your child to determine if he or she needs special attention.

If your child is already in an exceptional student education program, the ESE coordinator at your school will invite you to a meeting to review your child's Individual Education Plan (IEP). For more information contact the Department of Exceptional Student Education website www.palmbeachschools.org/ese/ or call (561) 434-8276.

My child is just learning English. What help is there for him?

All schools have programs to support the English language development and academic needs of students in the English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) program. If you have questions, contact the Department of Multicultural Education website at www.palmbeachschools.org/multicultural/ or call (561) 434-8620.

I'm interested in a private school for my child. When do they start classes?

Generally, private schools are open the same days as the public schools; however, dates and times do vary. Call the private school for specific information.

Is there a dress code?

The dress code policy or uniform guidelines vary from school to school. Call the school that your child will attend or visit www.palmbeachschools.org/showcase/.



What documents does my child need to register?

You may visit the Student Registration Page at www.palmbeachschools.org/students/studentreginfo.asp or see the checklist below:

Students who are new to Palm Beach County

- Completed registration form ([PBSD 0636](#))
- Proof of residence*
- Record of immunization
- Record of physical
- Proof of birth (birth certificate, passport, religious records)
- Additional helpful documents, information from previous school

Students transferring from within the Palm Beach County School System

- Completed registration form ([PBSD 0636](#))
- Proof of residence*

***Proof of Residence**

Upon initial enrollment in a school, a student or parent must produce two current documents reflecting the correct residential street address. Post office boxes, private mail box addresses or commercial establishment addresses are insufficient. Examples of acceptable documents reflecting residential street addresses are as follows: (According to School Board Policy 5.011)

- Home telephone or cellular telephone bill
- Electric bill
- Rent receipt with the name of the tenant and landlord and contact information for all parties
- Lease agreement with name of tenant and landlord and contact information for all parties (valid only through the expiration date indicated on the agreement. Upon expiration, parents must present a copy of the renewed or new agreement to the school office.)
- Mortgage paperwork
- Home purchase contract including specific closing date, with copy of the deed to be provided within 30 days of closing date
- State of Florida driver's license
- State of Florida identification card
- Automobile insurance policy
- Credit card statement
- United States Postal Service confirmation of address change
- Evidence of correspondence, including a stamped, addressed, postmarked envelope delivered to the home address or
- Declaration of Domicile form from the County Records Department.

To find out the school(s) assigned to your residence you may call the Boundaries Department at (561) 434-8100 or visit PalmBeachSchools.org and click on the "[Find My School](#)" tab on the right side of the page.



What immunization requirements do I need to register my child?

The list of immunization requirements are as follows:

IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIREMENTS

2016-2017 School Year

Grades	PK*	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>DTaP/DT Series</i>	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Tdap Booster</i>									X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Polio Series</i>	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MMR (2 doses)	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hepatitis B Series	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Varicella 1 dose	X										X	X	X	X
Varicella 2 doses		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
HIB series	X*													

Or visit the School Health Requirements page at www.palmbeachschools.org/sis/SchoolHealthEntryRequirements.asp

***PK – Age 3 vaccine doses as indicated for age.**

All new students seeking entrance into a public school in Palm Beach County are required by Florida Statute 1003.22 and School Board Policy to present, at the time of entry, valid documentation of the *Florida Certification of Immunization* Form (DH 680) that they have received the required immunizations against the communicable diseases as identified by the Department of Health.

A valid DH 680 **must** include:

- The student’s complete name, date of birth, and the name of the student’s parent/guardian.
- All vaccine dates with the month/day/year.
- Name of the physician or clinic; physician or clinic address; signature (or signature stamp) of the physician, nurse or the physician’s authorized designee; or the County Health Department stamp, nurse’s signature, and the date the form was signed and issued. Electronic signatures from FL SHOTS are valid.



The *Florida Certification of Immunization* – (DH 680) – includes sections for temporary and permanent medical exemptions. Temporary Medical Exemptions must have an expiration date. Permanent Medical Exemptions must specify which vaccine the student is exempted from and the valid clinical reason for exemption. Permanent Medical Exemptions must be signed by a physician (M.D. or D.O.).

Copies of *Florida Certification of Immunization* (DH 680) can be accepted. If a hardship exists for parents transferring students, according to statute, it is permissible to allow 30 school days for the transfer of records.

The *Certificate of Religious Exemption*, (DH 681), is available only through the Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County. It is not available from private physicians. Only a DH 681 will be accepted at school sites. This form is generated by FL SHOTS program for the Health Department, electronically signed, and can be printed on white or color paper.

Note: Homeless students and students entered in a Juvenile Justice program without immunization and physical exam documentation must be enrolled and receive a 30 day exemption. Follow-up with these students should be coordinated through the school counselor.

What are the physical examination requirements to register my child?

For first time entry into a Florida school you will need to comply with the following:

Students are required by Florida Statute 1003.22 and School Board policy to present, at the time of entry, valid documentation of a health examination performed within one year prior to the first date of entry.

The School Entry Health Exam Form (DH 3040*) includes:

- Part I completed and signed by the parent.
- Part II completed and signed/stamped by the physician.

*A copy or facsimile of a completed and appropriately signed DH 3040 is acceptable. However, every effort should be made to have the original documents on file at the school.

- Physical examinations are required for Palm Beach County students entering grades Pre-K, Kindergarten and 7th and preferably presented on the DH 3040.
- Transfer students from within the state of Florida should present records that reflect physical examinations having been performed for at least Kindergarten and 7th Grade.
- Physical examinations are also required for first time entry of all transfer students from outside the state of Florida, or from another country, regardless of grade.
- Out-of-state physical exams for school entrance are permitted if they include all components included on the DH 3040 and have the physician's signature and office stamp. If presenting an out-of-state physical exam, the parent/guardian must also complete and sign Part I of the State of Florida DH 3040. Copies of Part I of the physical exam (DH 3040) have been made specifically for this purpose and should be available at all the schools.
- Out-of-state physicians are able to complete the DH 3040 and may receive a copy of the DH 3040 by contacting the School Health Program, Florida Health Palm Beach County at (561) 671-4168.