

# Vaccine Assistance Program for Refugees & Immigrants

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Society of Travel Medicine (ISTM), persons who have chosen to make the United States their new home should be certain they are protected from the same vaccine-preventable diseases as if they were born in this country. This is even more important if they return to their homeland for a visit after living in the U.S. as their natural immunity is lower after living in the U.S.

THOSE ADULTS WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE FULL U.S. SCHEDULE OF VACCINES RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WHEN THEY LIVED IN ANOTHER COUNTRY SHOULD RECEIVE THE PRIMARY SERIES OF VACCINATIONS THAT ARE RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS LIVING IN THE U.S.

**THIS RECOMMENDATION IS FOR ALL PERSONS LIVING IN THE U.S.  
WHO WERE NOT BORN IN THE U.S.**

*The vaccines and their dosage schedule for children and adolescents are the same as the U.S. childhood and adolescent schedule.*

*Persons 18 years of age and under can receive vaccines at discounted rates or at no charge through their local health department.*

*SHOTS, etc. provides adults with discounted rates.*

***The recommended vaccine schedule for adult immigrants is as follows:***

## **Td/TdaP - Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis**

Ideally, the recipient should receive TdaP vaccine for the first three doses given at 2 month intervals, then Td as a booster every 10 years throughout adulthood.

## **IPV - Polio**

The recipient should receive the first three doses given at 2 month intervals, then a booster 5 years later.

## **MMR - Measles/Mumps/Rubella**

The recipient should receive two doses given 1-2 months apart.

## **Varicella - Chicken Pox**

The recipient should receive two doses given 1-2 months apart.

## **Hepatitis A**

The recipient should receive two doses given 6 months apart.

## **Hepatitis B**

The recipient should receive three doses given at 0, 1 month and 6 months in time.

**Pneumococcal and Meningococcal** vaccines are also recommended for certain populations, especially those living in communal groups. Persons who are traveling outside of the U.S. may also need Typhoid fever, Yellow Fever or other vaccines and anti-malarial medications depending on their destination and duration of travel.

***The Vaccine Assistance Program of SHOTS, etc. is in place to aid qualifying adults ages 19 years and older who have re-settled in the U.S. in receiving certain vaccines for only a small administration fee (\$30 per vaccine given). Not all of the above vaccines are included in the program. Certain financial restrictions apply. Please see the Vaccine Assistance Program Guidelines, visit [www.SHOTSetc.com](http://www.SHOTSetc.com) or call 615-469-7413 for more information about the SHOTS, etc. Vaccine Assistance Program.***