California School Immunization Requirements

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Health Service Assistant
This is a guide to determine which immunizations are required for a student entering a California school.

### Immunization Requirements for School Entry

#### GRADES TK/K-12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>4-6 Years Old Elementary School at Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten and Above</th>
<th>7-17 Years Old Elementary or Secondary School</th>
<th>7th Grade*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polio (OPV or IPV)</td>
<td>4 doses (3 doses OK if one was given on or after 4th birthday)</td>
<td>4 doses (3 doses OK if one was given on or after 2nd birthday)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis</td>
<td>5 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT (6 doses OK if one was given on or after 4th birthday)</td>
<td>4 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, Tdap, or Td (3 doses OK if last dose was given on or after 2nd birthday. At least one dose must be Tdap or DTaP/DTP given on or after 7th birthday for all 7th-12th graders.)</td>
<td>1 dose of Tdap (Or DTP/DTaP given on or after the 7th birthday.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR or MMR-V)</td>
<td>2 doses (both given on or after 1st birthday. Only one dose of mumps and rubella vaccines are required if given separately.)</td>
<td>1 dose (Dose given on or after 1st birthday. Mumps vaccine is not required if given separately.)</td>
<td>2 doses of MMR or any measles-containing vaccine (Both doses given after or before 1st birthday.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B (Step B or HBV)</td>
<td>3 doses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varicella (chickenpox, VAR, MMR-V, or VZV)</td>
<td>1 dose</td>
<td>1 dose for ages 7-12 years. 2 doses for ages 13-17 years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*New admissions to 7th grade should also meet the requirements for ages 7-17 years.*

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

California schools are required to check immunization records for all new student admissions at Kindergarten/TK through 12th grade and all students advancing to 7th grade before entry.

1. Notify parents of required immunizations and collect immunization records.
2. Copy the date of each vaccine from the child’s immunization record to the California School Immunization Record (Blue Card, CDPH-266) and/or supplemental Tdap sticker (FM 266 S-03/71) or enter into an approved electronic system that prints a Blue Card.
3. Compare number of doses on the Blue Card to the requirements above.
4. Determine whether child can be admitted.

Questions? Visit ShotsForSchool.org or contact your local health department at sbdohimmunization@sbcounty.gov.
Schools must check immunization records for all new student admissions at TK/Kindergarten through 12th grade and all students advancing to 7th grade prior to entry.
Transfer Students

Schools should request parents to provide their child’s immunization records at enrollment, rather than waiting for the cumulative folder to arrive.

- Transfer students are allowed to attend school for up to 30 school days until the cumulative folder arrives.

- If the record does not arrive within the 30 day timeframe, or does not include the required immunizations, the student is excluded until immunization records are presented.
The federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act:  

- Must immediately enroll new students who are homeless even if their immunization records are missing or unavailable at the time of enrollment.

California law requires schools to:

- Immediately enroll foster children transferring to their school even if a foster child is unable to produce immunization records normally required for school entry.
Once a student who is homeless or a foster child is enrolled, school staff should:

- Work with the family and previously attended schools to obtain the student’s immunization records quickly.
- Work with the student’s medical provider or the Public Health Department to ensure these students receive vaccinations, if needed.

The law still requires the school to obtain the student’s immunization record and ensure that these students have met all immunization requirements.
Must be completed and kept on file for every enrolled student.

This record card is sometimes referred to by its initials (CSIR), number (CDPH 286), or Blue Card.
When completing the Blue Card, the parent may enter the identifying information on the top of the record, but **school staff must enter all immunization dates**.

- School staff must record all vaccination dates from the child’s personal immunization record and complete the documentation section.

  - Complete dates (month/day/year) should be used for all vaccine doses.

- For transfer students, use the previous school’s Blue Card if it is available.
Completing the Blue Card: If Requirements Are Met

- If the child has met all immunization requirements, under **section II of the Blue Card, Status of Requirements:**
  - ☑ Check Box A
  - ☑ Date when record was reviewed.
Completing The Blue Card: If Requirements Are Not Met

- If the child has not met all immunization requirements, **but their next dose is not currently due**, check box B.

- The child will be conditionally admitted at this time but must be followed up with, as indicated in the “Guide to Immunizations Required For School Entry.”
Next Steps: If Requirements Are Not Met

- Alert parents and refer student to their doctor or DPH clinic. Schools cannot allow the child to attend school unless he/she has met all requirements or is not currently due for any immunizations.

- To avoid confusion, provide the parent with a written notice indicating what doses the student needs.

NOTICE OF IMMUNIZATIONS NEEDED

Dear Parent/Guardian of ____________________________

Our records show that your child needs the following immunization(s) to meet the requirements of the California School Immunization Law, Health and Safety Code Sections 120325-120375:

VACCINE
- POLIO
- DTaP (Dtap or Td if age 7 years or older)
- MMR
- Hib (child care/preschool only)
- HEPATITIS B
- VARICELLA (chickenpox)
- Tdap (for 7th-12th grade)

MISSING DOSE(S) MARKED BELOW:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>#1</th>
<th>#2</th>
<th>#3</th>
<th>#4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLIO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DTaP</td>
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<td>Tdap</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

YOU NEED TO DO ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING IMMEDIATELY:

1. If your child has already received all of these immunizations marked above, bring us the Immunization record so that we can update our files. Your child's record must include a date for the immunizations checked above and the doctor's signature or stamp.

2. If your child hasn't already received all of the immunizations marked above, bring this form along with your child's Immunization record to your doctor or local health department to get the immunization(s) marked above. Bring us your child's updated Immunization record after every immunization until all of the required immunizations have been received.

3. If any of these Immunizations were not given to your child because of medical reasons, please bring us a letter from your doctor (licensed physician).

According to state law, we cannot allow your child to attend school unless we receive evidence that the above requirements are met by this date: ____________

For more information on school immunization requirements, visit www.shotsforschool.org.
If you have any questions or require additional information, please call ____________.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Date: 12/31]
New Law (SB 277):
In effect since Jan. 1, 2016

Parents or guardians of students in any school or child-care facility, whether public or private, are no longer allowed to submit a Personal Belief Exemption (PBE).
Students are no longer required to have immunizations for entry if they attend:

- A home-based private school or
- An independent study program with no classroom-based instruction.

However, parents/guardians must continue to provide immunization records for these students to schools; and schools must continue to maintain and report immunization records received for these students.

The immunization requirements do not prohibit students from accessing special education and related services required by their individualized education programs (IEPs).
Valid PBEs filed at a California school or child-care facility before January 1, 2016 will remain valid until the student enrolls in the next grade span.

- Grade Spans are defined as:
  - Birth-Preschool
  - TK/Kindergarten (including grades 1-6)
  - 7-12th Grade

PBEs may only be transferred between child-care facilities and schools in California, both within and across school districts.

However, if the PBE documentation is no longer available, students must meet immunization requirements based on their current age or grade.
Criteria For a Valid PBE

- Filed Before 2014:
  - Personal Beliefs affidavit on back of Blue Card or
  - Tdap PBE (CHDP 8261) signed & dated by parent

- Filed in 2014 or 2015:
  - Completed PBE form (CDPH 8262), including:
    - Student’s name and date of birth
    - Parent/guardian’s name and address
    - Section A. – Signature of an authorized health care practitioner licensed or credentialed in California and date of signing (not required if exemption was based on religious beliefs).
    - Section B. I. – Checkmark to indicate either receipt of information from practitioner or religious beliefs; signature of parent/guardian and date of signing.
    - Section B. II. – Checkmark(s) to indicate which vaccines are being exempted; signature of parent/guardian and date of signing.
A temporary or permanent medical exemption to one or more of the required immunizations may be granted under certain circumstances if a licensed physician (M.D. or D.O.) provides written documentation verifying:

- The physical condition or medical circumstances of the child are such that the required immunization(s) is not indicated.
- Which vaccines are being exempted.
- Whether the medical exemption is permanent or temporary.
- The expiration date, if the exemption is temporary.
It is the responsibility of school staff to follow-up on all students conditionally admitted, that have doses due later. This means that each school must develop a follow-up system for these students and employ it consistently.
Examples:

- Flag the CSIRs
- Separate file for CSIRs
- Index card file
- Calendar entry
- Run a query

Follow-up system should include:

- Keeping lists of unimmunized (exempt or conditional entrant) children to refer to in case of disease outbreak.
- Reviewing records of chosen follow-up system monthly.
- Maintaining contact with parents. All parents should be sent a Notice of Immunizations Needed form.
Check “Shots For School” For Up-To-Date Resources

http://www.shotsforschool.org/
Call For Assistance!!!

San Bernardino County Department of Public Health

Communicable Disease Section

Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 5:00 pm
1-800-722-4794

Beverly Villa
Mayra Parga