



Alta Loma School District

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Board of Trustees Members

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Superintendent

December 15, 2015

Dear Parent or Guardian:

RE: New Immunization Requirements for 2016

Under a new law known as SB 277, beginning January 1, 2016, exemptions based on personal beliefs will no longer be an option for the vaccines that are currently required for entry into child care or school in California. Most families will not be affected by the new law because their children have received all required vaccinations. Personal beliefs exemptions on file for a child already attending child care or school will remain valid until the child reaches the next immunization checkpoint at kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) or 7th grade.

For more information about SB 277, please see the Frequently Asked Questions available at: <http://www.shotsforschool.org/laws/sb277faq/>.

For more information about school immunization requirements and resources, please visit the California Department of Public Health's website at www.shotsforschool.org, or contact your local health department or county office of education.

Thank you for helping us to keep our children and community healthy.

Sincerely,

Melinda Early
Associate Superintendent
Educational Services

SB 277
Public Health: Vaccinations

SB 277 Summary	Eliminates immunizations exemptions based on personal beliefs for children in child care, public/private schools.
Effective Date	January 1, 2016.
Schools	The law applies to any public or private elementary or secondary school, including charter schools.
Child Care	The law applies to any child care center, day nursery, nursery school, family day care home, or development center.
Exempt	<p>The law does not apply to students in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home-based private schools • Independent study programs with no classroom-based instruction <p>Students will still need to provide immunization records to their schools before entry. Schools will need to report to CDPH on immunization status of all students at child care, K and 7th grade levels.</p>
Religious Beliefs	No distinction is made between exemptions based on religious beliefs and other personal beliefs. Under the new law, exemptions for religious or other personal beliefs will no longer be an option.
Existing Personal Beliefs Exemption (PBE)	<p>PBEs submitted before January 1, 2016, remain valid until student enrolls in the next grade span. Grade spans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth to preschool • K and grades 1 to 6, including transitional K • Grades 7 to 12 •
Admittance or Advancement to 7th Grade	Effective July 1, 2016, students shall not be admitted or advanced to 7 th grade unless the student has received all immunizations required for his or her age.
Students in Special Education	The law does not prohibit access to special education and related services as per IEP. (Clarification pending)

New Immunizations Required In The Future	<p>Medical and personal beliefs exemptions will be allowed for any new immunization requirements initiated by California Department of Public Health.</p>
Exclusion Due To Exposure To Disease	<p>When there is good cause to believe a child has been exposed to the disease of a required immunization, and there is no proof of immunization against that disease, the child may be temporarily excluded from school until public health is satisfied the child is no longer at risk of developing or transmitting the disease.</p>
First Enrollment Or Promotion To New Grade Span	<p>4 options for admittance or promotion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received all required vaccines • Have a medical exemption from a physician • Have a PBE filed before January 1, 2016 – is valid until the next grade span checkpoint • Conditional admission
New Enrollees	<p>New enrollees must provide documentation of immunization status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A student with a prior PBE, entering from another California school, with a prior PBE, must provide documentation of PBE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If no documentation, must have all required immunizations • A student new to California – from out of state or country, must have all required immunizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A PBE from another state or country is not acceptable
Conditional Admission	<p>Children behind on their required immunizations may be admitted conditionally, if they are not currently due for any doses.</p> <p>Immunization records of new enrollees admitted conditionally shall be reviewed periodically (monthly) to ensure subsequent immunizations are received within the time periods allowed, until students are fully immunized.</p>

Medical Exemption	<p>Parent must submit a written statement from a licensed MD or DO which states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the physical condition or medical circumstances of the child are such that required immunization(s) is not indicated. (Diagnosis not required, but optional) • Which vaccines are being exempted • Whether medical exemption is permanent or temporary • Expiration date, if temporary
Homeless Or Foster Students	<p>Homeless or foster students must meet immunization requirements. However, when transferring to a new school, may be admitted immediately if no immunization records. Schools are to assist students in locating records and/or receiving required immunizations as soon as possible.</p>
Reports	<p>Schools shall file a written report on immunization status of new enrollees. The report shall be submitted to the local health department.</p>
Public Health Access To Student Records	<p>The local health department shall have access to the complete health information as it relates to immunization of each student in schools in order to determine immunization deficiencies.</p>
For More Information	<p>New Laws: Personal Belief Exemptions: FAQs www.shotsforschool.org</p>