

CSBA Sample

Administrative Regulation

Health Screening For School Entry

AR 5141.32

Students

Note: The following optional regulation is for use by districts that offer grades K-1.

Comprehensive Health Screening for Grades K-1

Note: Health and Safety Code 124085 requires students to have a comprehensive health screening within 18 months prior to entry into first grade or within 90 days thereafter, as provided below. At their discretion, districts may revise the following paragraph to require proof of the health screening before the student is admitted to school (kindergarten or grade 1), as recommended by the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) office of the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) in its CHDP School Handbook: School Entry Health Examination Requirements.

Note: Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 124085, evidence of the comprehensive health screening must be provided on a form developed by the DHCS. Districts may obtain the DHCS "Report of Health Examination for School Entry" certification form through the CHDP program office at the local health department or on the CHDP web site.

The parent/guardian of a student in kindergarten or first grade shall submit to the Superintendent or designee a certification form developed by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and signed by the student's health examiner certifying that the student has completed a comprehensive health screening within 18 months prior to entry into first grade or within 90 days thereafter. (Health and Safety Code 124040, 124085)

(cf. 5111 - Admission)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

***Note: Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 124100, the notification described in the following paragraph must be provided in cooperation with the county's CHDP program established pursuant to Health and Safety Code 124025-124110. The CHDP program provides state-reimbursed health examinations at no cost to eligible students, including those who (1) are certified as eligible to receive Medi-Cal, (2) are not certified as eligible for Medi-Cal but have a family income at or below the level established annually by the DHCS, or (3) are attending a Head Start or State Preschool program. Annual eligibility criteria for the CHDP program are

available on the DHCS web site.***

The Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of all kindergarten students of the requirement to obtain a health screening and of the availability of the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program established pursuant to Health and Safety Code 124025-124110 to assist eligible low-income families in obtaining the health screening. (Health and Safety Code 124100)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Note: The following optional paragraph reflects legislative intent in Health and Safety Code 124105 encouraging students to complete the health screening in conjunction with immunizations prior to enrolling in kindergarten. The CHDP School Handbook: School Entry Health Examination Requirements recommends that schools include the parent/guardian notice in the kindergarten registration packet because it has been found to be most effective to collect the certification forms at kindergarten entry.

The notice and certification form shall be included with the notification of immunization requirements provided to parents/guardians prior to their child's enrollment in kindergarten and shall encourage completion of the health screening simultaneously with immunizations. The notice shall also be provided to the parent/guardian of any student who is enrolling in first grade without having attended kindergarten in the district.

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

In lieu of the certification, the parent/guardian may submit a waiver on a form developed by DHCS indicating that he/she does not want or is unable to obtain a health screening. If the waiver indicates that the parent/guardian was unable to obtain the services, the reasons should be included in the waiver. (Health and Safety Code 124085)

Note: The following optional paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. The CHDP School Handbook: School Entry Health Examination Requirements recommends that the waiver form be provided to parents/guardians upon request rather than distributed with the notification of the health screening requirement.

The waiver form shall be provided to a parent/guardian upon request.

The completed certification form or the waiver shall be maintained in the student's health file or cumulative record. (5 CCR 432)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

During the first 90 days of the school year, the Superintendent or designee may contact any parent/guardian of a first-grade student who has not provided either the certification form or the waiver to ensure that the parent/guardian understands the health screening requirement and, if appropriate, his/her possible eligibility for the CHDP program.

The Superintendent or designee shall exclude from school, for not more than five school days, any first-grade student who does not present evidence of a health screening or a waiver on or before the 90th day after entering first grade. The exclusion shall begin on the 91st day after the student's entrance into the first grade, or if school is not in session, then on the next succeeding school day. (Health and Safety Code 124105)

Note: Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 124105, the exemptions described in the following paragraph may not exceed five percent of the district's first-grade enrollment.

The Superintendent or designee may exempt a student from exclusion when his/her parents/guardians have been contacted at least twice between the first day and the 90th day after the student's enrollment in first grade and the parents/guardians refuse to provide either a certification form or a waiver. (Health and Safety Code 124105)

(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

Oral Health Assessment for Grades K-1

No later than May 31 of the school year, the parent/guardian of any kindergarten student or of any first-grade student who was not previously enrolled in a public school shall certify that the student has received an oral health assessment. The oral health assessment shall have been performed by a licensed dentist or other authorized dental health professional no earlier than 12 months prior to the date of the student's initial enrollment. (Education Code 49452.8)

Note: The California Department of Education (CDE) has developed a sample parental notification letter, available on its web site, which satisfies the following requirements of Education Code 49452.8.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of students in grades K-1 of the oral health assessment requirement. The notification shall, at a minimum, consist of a letter that includes all of the following: (Education Code 49452.8)

1. An explanation of the administrative requirements of the law
2. Information on the importance of primary teeth
3. Information on the importance of oral health to overall health and to learning
4. A toll-free telephone number to request an application for Medi-Cal or other government-subsidized health insurance programs
5. Contact information for county public health departments
6. A statement of privacy applicable under state and federal laws and regulations

Note: The following optional paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. As required by Education Code 49452.8, the CDE has developed a standardized "Oral Health Assessment Form," available on its web site, to be used by all districts to obtain the certification of the assessment.

The notification, along with a copy of the certification form developed by the California Department of Education, shall be provided to parents/guardians when they register their child for school.

Following completion of the assessment, the parent/guardian shall submit to the Superintendent or designee a completed certification form which has been signed by the dental health professional.

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 49452.8, if parents/guardians are unable to obtain the oral health assessment for any of the reasons specified below, they must instead complete the section of the CDE's certification form indicating why an assessment could not be completed.

A parent/guardian may be excused from complying with the oral health assessment requirements if he/she indicates on the certification form that the assessment could not be completed for any of the following reasons: (Education Code 49452.8)

1. Completion of an assessment poses an undue financial burden on the parent/guardian.
2. The parent/guardian lacks access to a licensed dentist or other dental health professional.
3. The parent/guardian does not consent to an assessment.

Note: The following paragraph is optional. Education Code 49452.8, as amended by SB 379 (Ch. 772, Statutes of 2017), requires the CDE's certification form to include specified information in regard to parental rights related to school site oral health assessments.

If the district hosts a free oral health assessment event at which licensed dentists or other licensed dental health professionals perform school site assessments of students enrolled in the school, any student who has not had an oral health assessment shall be given an assessment unless his/her parent/guardian has indicated on the certification form that he/she does not consent to the student receiving an assessment. However, a student shall not receive dental treatment of any kind without his/her parent/guardian's informed consent for the treatment. (Education Code 49452.8)

Note: The following paragraph is optional.

Students who are not assessed, or for whom the parents/guardians fail to return the certification form, shall not be excluded from school attendance.

Note: SB 379 (Ch. 772, Statutes of 2017) amended Education Code 49452.8 to change the date for reporting oral health assessment data, as provided in the following paragraph.

By July 1 of each year, the Superintendent or designee shall report data on oral health assessments to the state dental director and/or the county office of education in accordance with Education Code 49452.8.

The report shall also be provided to the Governing Board. The identity of any student shall not be included in the report.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48985 Notice to parents in language other than English

49060-49079 Student records

49452.8 Oral health assessment

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

104395 Child Health and Disability Prevention Program expansion

124025-124110 Child Health and Disability Prevention Program, especially:

124085 Certificate documenting health screening and evaluation services; waiver by parent/guardian

124100 Distribution of program information to parents/guardians of kindergarten children

124105 Exclusions and exemption; legislative intent of notification contents

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

432 Student records

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17

6800-6874 Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES PUBLICATIONS

Child Health & Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program: Oral Health Educational Resources for Children and Teens (6-20 years), rev. July 2013

CHDP School Handbook: School Entry Health Examination Requirements, rev. January 2006

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Dental Association: <http://www.cda.org>

California Department of Education, Health Services: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn>

California Department of Health Care Services, Child Health and Disability Prevention Program: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp>

California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.ccrcca.org/resources/family-resource-directory/item/california-healthy-kids-resource-center>