



**For School Year 2020-2021**

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Guardians,

There have been recent changes to school entry immunization requirements that went into effect July 1, 2019. We are sharing these changes with you so that you may work with your child’s healthcare provider to make sure your child is vaccinated (California Code of Regulations Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 4.) There has been the addition of a second Varicella vaccine requirement for entry into elementary school at transitional kindergarten (TK)/Kindergarten (K) and/or seventh grade, administered by a licensed California Healthcare Practitioner.

| Grade   | Number of Doses Required of Each Immunization |                     |                      |                    |                           |
|---|---|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| K – 12 <sup>th</sup> Admission                    | 4 Polio <sup>4</sup>                          | 5 DTaP <sup>5</sup> | 3 Hep B <sup>6</sup> | 2 MMR <sup>7</sup> | 2 Varicella               |
| (7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> ) <sup>8</sup> | K-12 doses + 1 Tdap                           |                     |                      |                    |                           |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Advancement <sup>9,10</sup> | 1 Tdap <sup>8</sup>                           |                     |                      |                    | 2 Varicella <sup>10</sup> |

1. Requirements for K-12 admission also apply to transfer pupils. 2. Combination vaccines (e.g., MMRV) meet the requirements for individual component vaccines. Doses of DTP count towards the DTaP requirement. 3. Any vaccine administered four or fewer days prior to the minimum required age is valid. 4. Three doses of polio vaccine meet the requirement if one dose was given on or after the 4th birthday. 5. Four doses of DTaP meet the requirement if at least one dose was given on or after the 4th birthday. Three doses meet the requirement if at least one dose of Tdap, DTaP, or DTP vaccine was given on or after the 7th birthday (also meets the 7th-12th grade Tdap requirement. See fn. 8.)

One or two doses of Td vaccine given on or after the 7th birthday count towards the K-12 requirement. 6. For 7th grade admission, refer to Health and Safety Code section 120335, subdivision (c). 7. Two doses of measles, two doses of mumps, and one dose of rubella vaccine meet the requirement, separately or combined. Only doses administered on or after the 1st birthday meet the requirement. 8. For 7th-12th graders, at least one dose of pertussis-containing vaccine is required on or after the 7th birthday. 9. For children in ungraded schools, pupils 12 years and older are subject to the 7th grade advancement requirements. 10. The varicella requirement for seventh grade advancement expires after June 30, 2025.

California schools are required by law to check the immunization records for all new student admissions at TK/Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and all students advancing to 7<sup>th</sup> grade **before** entry. If a child is advancing to 7<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2020 or later, the child must meet the 7<sup>th</sup> grade requirements in effect at the time of entering into 7<sup>th</sup> grade (see above).

For medical exemptions please refer to the link [www.shotsforschool.org](http://www.shotsforschool.org) for specific requirements.

If a child has an expiring personal belief exemption prior to attending school on or after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, the child will need to meet all current immunization requirements. Your child may receive the necessary vaccines from his/her primary care practitioner. **It is important to get your child vaccinated early so there will be no issue with school entry. Your child will not be admitted if the above requirements are not met.** Please make sure you bring your child’s vaccine record to the school so it may be on file. Should you have questions, please contact your child’s health care provider or Orange County Public Health at (800) 564-8448 or contact your school nurse.