

# Monthly Immunization Update

March 2025

Dear Schools and partners ,

The purpose of this newsletter is to deliver quick and meaningful updates to support our schools and partners in a variety of vaccine settings, and maintain our connection with all of you. We welcome your questions and comments. Please feel free to share this newsletter with all of your colleagues. Thank you !

## *Children can still get vaccines— even with a fever or mild illness*

Because a mild illness does not affect how well the body responds to a vaccine, your child can still be vaccinated if he or she has:

- A low-grade fever
- A cold, runny nose, or cough
- An ear infection (otitis media)
- Mild diarrhea

### **Vaccines do not make a mild illness worse**

Vaccines only have a tiny fraction of the bacteria and viruses that children encounter naturally. Because of this, the immune system can handle getting vaccines and fighting minor illnesses at the same time.

Vaccines do not make symptoms of illness worse. Like any medication, vaccines may cause mild side effects, like a low fever or soreness or swelling where the shot was given. To help with discomfort from these side effects, put a cool, wet washcloth on the sore area or ask your child's doctor about using pain- or fever-reducing medicine. These side effects are very minor and soon go away.

For more information on vaccines when your child is sick please visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Pre-](#)



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*International HPV Awareness Day* 1

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International HPV Awareness Day (IHAD) is celebrated on March 4th. The day raises awareness about human papillomaviruses (HPV) and the importance of vaccination. The CDC recommends that all children get the HPV vaccine between the ages of 9 and 13. The CDC also recommends that anyone who is not adequately vaccinated before age 26 get vaccinated.



## School IZ Requirements—Transitional Kindergarten

- In 2025-2026, local educational agencies (e.g., school districts) are required to make TK available to all children who will have their fourth birthday by September 1st of the school year.
  - Some TK will be 3 years of age at the time of admission.
- FAQ: Are students in transitional kindergarten subject to the Kindergarten immunization requirements?**  
Yes. They are required to have documentation of required immunization or a valid exemption prior to admission to traditional kindergarten.
- For students who are 3 years at the time of admission to TK, schools are recommended to initially apply the pre-kindergarten immunization requirements and to follow up with these student once they turn old to apply the TK/K immunization requirements.



## School IZ Requirements—7th Grade Varicella

- The varicella requirements for 7th grade advancement expires after the June 30, 2025
- 2 doses of varicella remain required at K-12 admission, including 7th grade admission.

### California Immunization Requirements for **K-12<sup>th</sup> Grade** (including transitional kindergarten)



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

- Requirements for K-12 admission also apply to transfer pupils.
- Combination vaccines (e.g., MMRV) meet the requirements for individual component vaccines. Doses of DTP count towards the DTaP requirement.
- Any vaccine administered four or fewer days prior to the minimum required age is valid.
- Three doses of polio vaccine meet the requirement if one dose was given on or after the 4th birthday. Oral polio vaccine (OPV) doses given on or after April 1, 2016, do not count.
- 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.
- For 7th grade admission, refer to Health and Safety Code section 120335, subdivision (c).
- 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.
- For 7th-12th graders, at least one dose of pertussis-containing vaccine is required on or after the 7th birthday.
- For children in ungraded schools, pupils 12 years and older are subject to the 7th grade advancement requirements.
- The varicella requirement for seventh grade advancement expires after June 30, 2025.**

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We are on the web!

<https://vchca.org/immunization-program>

or follow us on

