



Immunization and Oral Health Policy

Pacific Coast Academy is committed to protecting the health and well-being of all Charter School students.

The purpose of Charter School Governing Board approving this Immunization and Oral Health Assessment Policy is to accomplish the following:

1. Outline Immunization Requirements During Enrollment
2. Establish Medical Exemptions from the Establish Medical Exemptions from the Immunization Requirements
3. Establish the Oral Health Assessments as a Condition of Enrollment
4. Outline the Reporting Requirements to County Office of Education

- 1. Immunizations:** To protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases, the Governing Board desires to cooperate with state and local health agencies to require immunization of all students against preventable diseases.

Valid immunization records are required during the Registration (REG-Online) process. Failure to submit a valid copy of the student's immunization record within the timeframe set by the school's board-approved Enrollment Policies will result in the forfeiture of the student's placement for the school year. Note, however, that Health & Safety Code section 120335 allows for independent study programs to allow non-immunized students to enroll if there is no classroom-based instruction. In that instance, the REG-Online process must indicate that the student is not immunized. Alternatively, a medical exemption must be submitted during REG-Online.

- 2. Classroom Based Instruction from PCA:** If your student participates in any classroom-based instruction given by PCA at PCA's resource center following immunization requirements apply to those students.

Admission: Students shall not be unconditionally admitted to the School unless prior to his/her first admission to the School, he/she presents an immunization record which shows at least the month and year of each immunization the student has received, in accordance with law. Students may be conditionally admitted in accordance with the regulations promulgated by the Department of Health Services. If a student conditionally admitted fails to fulfill the conditions of admission, the School will prohibit the student from further attendance until that student has been fully immunized as required by law.

The School shall not unconditionally admit or advance any pupil to the 7th through 12th grade levels unless the pupil has been fully immunized against pertussis (whooping cough), including all pertussis boosters appropriate for the pupil's age.

Immunization records shall be part of the mandatory permanent pupil record and shall be kept in accordance with the School's record-keeping policy.

If the School discovers that an admitted student has not received all required immunizations, the School will notify his/her parent/guardian. If, within 10 school days of the notice, the child does not provide documentation of having received all required immunizations, the School shall exclude the student from attendance.

Exemptions from Requirements: Students who, prior to January 1, 2016, submitted a letter or affidavit on file at any public or private elementary or secondary school stating beliefs opposed to immunization, shall be allowed to enroll in the School until the student passes into the next grade span.

- 3. Medical Exemptions:** Prior to January 1, 2021, a student will be exempted from the immunization requirements, to the extent indicated in the written statement, if his/her parent or guardian files with the School a written statement by a licensed physician or surgeon to the effect that the physical condition of the student is such, or medical circumstances relating to the student are such, that immunization is not considered safe. The statement should include the specific nature and probable duration of the medical condition or circumstances, including, but not limited to, family medical history, for which the physician or surgeon does not recommend immunization.

Beginning January 1, 2020, a child who has a medical exemption issued before January 1, 2020 shall be allowed continued enrollment in the School until the child enrolls in the next grade span. On or after July 1, 2021, the School shall not unconditionally admit or readmit a student or admit or advance any pupil to 7th grade level, unless the pupil has been immunized in accordance with Health & Safety Code section 120335 or the parent or guardian files a medical exemption form that complies with Health & Safety Code section 120372.

Beginning January 1, 2021, the form that is compliant with Health & Safety Code section 120372 shall be the only documentation of a medical exemption that the School may accept.

If California's Department of Health Services (the "Department") revokes a student's medical exemption, the student has 30 days to commence the immunization schedule required for attendance at the School. During this 30-day period, the student may continue in attendance at the School. Alternatively, the parent/guardian may appeal the revocation through the Department's appeal process. The student will continue in attendance during the pendency of the appeal and will not be required to otherwise comply with immunization requirements unless and until the revocation is upheld on appeal.

The School will file a written report on the immunization status of new entrants to the School with the Department of Health Services as required by law.

- 4. Oral Health Examination:** By May 31 of each school year, students entering kindergarten or the first grade (who have not attended kindergarten) must present proof to the school of having received an oral health assessment by a licensed dentist, or other licensed or registered dental health professional. The oral health assessment must have been performed no earlier than 12 months prior to the date of initial enrollment.

A student may be excused from this requirement if his/her parent or guardian indicates on the approved form provided by the school one or more of the following reasons apply:

- The oral health assessment poses an undue financial burden on the parent/guardian;
- The parent/guardian lacks access to a licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional; or
- The parent/guardian does not consent to the assessment.

Upon initial enrollment in kindergarten or first grade, the school will notify parent/guardians of the required oral health assessment on the California Department of Education approved form.

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- 5. Report to County Office of Education:** By July 1 of each year, the school will submit a report to a system designated by the state dental director for the collection of those reports or the County Office of Education

containing the following information:

- the total number of pupils in the school who are subject to the oral health assessment requirements of the statute;
- the total number of pupils who submitted proof of an assessment;
- the total number of pupils who could not complete the assessment due to financial burden;
- the total number of pupils who could not complete the assessment due to lack of access to a dentist;
- the total number of pupils who could not complete the assessment because their parents/guardians did not consent;
- the total number of pupils who are assessed and found to have had caries experience;
- the total number of pupils who are assessed and found to have untreated decay;
- the total number of pupils who did not return either the assessment form or the waiver request to the school