

Immunization, Oral and Health Screening Policy

Feather River Charter School

BP 5141.31, 5151.32
Adopted 08/27/20
Revised 10/18/23, v2

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

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

1. Outline Immunization Requirements During Enrollment
2. 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
5. Outline Health Screening for grades TK-1

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. 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.

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 to be 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

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Department of Health Services as required by law.

3. 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 that 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.

4. 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 to 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

5. Health Screening for grades TK-1

Comprehensive Health Screening for Grades K-1

The parent/guardian of a student in kindergarten or first grade shall submit to the Executive Director 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)

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The Executive Director 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)

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.

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)

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

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

During the first 90 days of the school year, the Executive Director 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.

