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Immunization Law SB 277

Starting January 1, 2016, parents or guardians of students in any school or child-care facility, whether public or private, will no longer be allowed to submit a personal beliefs exemption or religious exemption to required vaccines.

Children with a valid personal beliefs exemption (or religious belief exemption) filed before 2016 who enter kindergarten or 7th grade will have to meet **all age-appropriate immunization requirements** for admission to kindergarten/TK or 7th grade.

A parent/guardian can submit a temporary or permanent medical exemption. This will be a written statement from a licensed MD or DO which states:

- That the physical condition or medical circumstances of the child are such that the required immunization(s) is not indicated.
- Which vaccines are being exempted
- Whether the medical exemption is permanent or temporary
- The expiration date, if the exemption is temporary

Students will no longer be required to have immunizations if they attend

- A home-based private school or
- An independent study program with no classroom-based instruction (our independent study programs are classroom-based).

Children behind on their required immunizations may be admitted conditionally, if they are not currently due for any doses or have a temporary medical exemption. Children who have Special Education services (an IEP) cannot be excluded from school, but they are under the same immunization requirements as stated above.

You can review the new law at:

http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB277

If you have further questions, please refer to:

<http://www.shotsforschool.org/laws/sb277faq/>