

StudentsHealth Examinations

The Governing Board recognizes that periodic health examinations of students may lead to early detection and treatment of conditions that impact learning. Health examinations also may help in determining whether special adaptations of the school program are necessary.

The Superintendent or designee shall verify that students have complied with legal requirements for a comprehensive health screening, an oral health assessment, and immunizations at school entry. In addition, the district shall administer tests for vision, hearing, and scoliosis as required by law.

- (cf. [5141.26](#) - Tuberculosis Testing)
- (cf. [5141.31](#) - Immunizations)
- (cf. [5141.32](#) - Health Screening for School Entry)
- (cf. [5141.6](#) - School Health Services)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff employed to examine students exercise proper care of each student and that examination results are kept confidential. Records related to these examinations shall be maintained and released only in accordance with law.

- (cf. [5125](#) - Student Records)

Legal Reference:**EDUCATION CODE**

- [44871-44879](#) Employment qualifications
- [48980](#) Parental notifications
- [49400-49414.5](#) Student health, general powers of school boards
- [49422](#) Supervision of health and physical development
- [49450-49458](#) Physical examinations (of students)
- [49460-49466](#) Development of standardized health assessments

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

- 1685-1686 Audiometrists
- [120325-120380](#) Immunization against communicable diseases
- [121475-121520](#) Tuberculosis tests for students
- [124025-124110](#) Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

Students (continued)

Health Examinations

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

[590-596](#) Vision screening

[3027](#) Hearing and vision screening for special education

[3028](#) Audiological screening

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17

[2950-2951](#) Hearing tests

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

[1232g](#) Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

[1232h](#) Protection of student rights

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Expanding Access to School Health Services: Policy Considerations for Governing Boards, November 2008

Promoting Oral Health for California's Students: New Roles, New Opportunities for Schools, November 2008

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Standards for Scoliosis Screening in California Public Schools, 2007

A Guide for Vision Testing in California Public Schools, 2005

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES PUBLICATIONS

Manual for the School Audiometrist

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Joint Guidance on the Application of FERPA and HIPAA to Student Health Records, November 2008

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Health Services/School Nursing: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn>

California Department of Education, Type 2 Diabetes Information:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/type2diabetes.asp>"><http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn>"><http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/type2diabetes.asp>

California Department of Health Care Services

<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

Policy Adopted: January 1991

Policy Revised: 05/15

Students

Health Examinations

The principal at each school shall notify parents/guardians of the rights of students and parents/guardians related to health examinations. (Education Code [48980](#); 20 USC [1232h](#))

- (cf. [5022](#) - Student and Family Privacy Rights)
- (cf. [5141.32](#) - Health Screening for School Entry)
- (cf. [5141.6](#) - School Health Services)
- (cf. [5145.6](#) - Parental Notifications)

A parent/guardian may annually file with the principal a written statement withholding consent to the physical examination of his/her child. Any such student shall be exempt from any physical examination but shall be subject to exclusion from attendance when contagious or infectious disease is reasonably suspected. (Education Code [49451](#); 20 USC [1232h](#))

- (cf. [5112.2](#) - Exclusions from Attendance)
- (cf. [5141.22](#) - Infectious Diseases)
- (cf. [5141.26](#) - Tuberculosis Testing)

Vision Tests

Each student's vision shall be appraised, by the school nurse or other personnel authorized under Education Code [49452](#), during the kindergarten year or upon first enrollment or entry in a district elementary school and subsequently in grades 2, 5, and 8. However, a student who is tested upon first enrollment or entry in the district in grade 4 or 7 shall not be required to be appraised in the next immediate year. (Education Code [49455](#))

The vision appraisal shall include tests for visual acuity, including near vision. Male students shall also be tested once for color vision in grade 1 or later and the results of the appraisal shall be entered in the student's health record. (Education Code [49455](#))

- (cf. [5125](#) - Student Records)

Appraisal of a student's vision may be waived under either of the following conditions: (Education Code [49455](#))

1. The student's parent/guardian requests a waiver and presents a certificate from a physician/surgeon, physician assistant, or optometrist showing the results of an examination of the student's vision, including visual acuity and, in male students, color vision.
2. The student's parents/guardians file with the principal a written statement that they adhere to the faith or teachings of any well-recognized religious sect, denomination, or organization and, in accordance with its creed, tenets, or principles depend for healing upon prayer in the practice of their religion.

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Visual defects or any other defects found as a result of the vision examination shall be reported to the parent/guardian with a request that remedial action be taken to correct or cure the defect. The report of a visual defect, if made in writing, shall be made on a form prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The report shall not include a referral to any private practitioner. However, the student may be referred to a public clinic or diagnostic and treatment center operated by a public hospital or by the state, county, or city department of public health. (Education Code [49456](#))

In addition to the vision appraisals described above, the school nurse and/or classroom teacher shall continually and regularly observe students' eyes, appearance, behavior, visual performance, and perception that may indicate vision difficulties. (Education Code [49455](#))

Hearing Tests

The Superintendent or designee shall provide for the administration of hearing tests to district students by personnel authorized to conduct such testing pursuant to Education Code [49452](#) and [49454](#) and in accordance with the procedures specified in 17 CCR [2951](#).

Each student shall be given a hearing screening test at the following times: (17 CCR [2951](#))

1. Kindergarten or grade 1
2. Grade 2
3. Grade 5
4. Grade 8
5. Grade 10 or 11
6. Upon first entry into the California public school system

Each student enrolled in a special education program, other than those enrolled because of a hearing problem, shall be given a hearing test when enrolled in the program and every third year thereafter. Hearing tests may be given more frequently as needed, based on the individualized education program team's evaluation of the student. (17 CCR [2951](#))

(cf. [6159](#) - Individualized Education Program)

A follow-up hearing threshold test shall be administered to any student who fails to respond to any of the required frequencies in the screening test or is otherwise determined to need further evaluation. (17 CCR [2951](#))

The Superintendent or designee shall provide written notification of test results to the parents/guardians of any student who fails the hearing tests. When the test results fall within the levels specified in 17 CCR [2951](#) or there is evidence of pathology, such as an infection of the outer ear, chronic drainage, or a chronic earache, the notification shall include a recommendation that a further medical and audiological evaluation be obtained. (17 CCR [2951](#))

Students (continued)

Health Examinations

The dates and results of all screening tests and copies of threshold tests shall be included in the student's health records. (17 CCR [2951](#))

The principal or designee shall prepare an annual report of the school hearing testing program, using forms provided by the Department of Health Services, with copies to the Superintendent and the County Superintendent of Schools. (17 CCR [2951](#))

Scoliosis Screening

Each female student in grade 7 and each male student in grade 8 shall be screened for scoliosis. (Education Code [49452.5](#))

The parent/guardian of any student suspected of having scoliosis shall receive a notice which includes an explanation of scoliosis and describes the significance of treatment at an early age. This notice shall also describe the public services available for treatment and include a referral to appropriate community resources. (Education Code [49452.5](#))