
IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Sage Oak Charter Schools (“SOCS” or the “Charter School”) adopt this Immunization Policy to apply to all students enrolling in SOCS.

All students enrolling in SOCS must present either the immunization record or complete the Non-Immunization Confirmation form if waiving immunizations.

Because SOCS is a non-classroom based school, students are exempt from the immunization requirements under the SB277 law, which requires students in California to be:

1. up to date on all vaccinations
2. have a doctor's note outlining the plan to be up-to-date
3. have a medical exemption form signed by a doctor

Since, according to the law, we are required to collect information, the parent/guardian must provide either current immunization records or sign the Non-Immunization Confirmation form.

Immunization Information

The following is a Frequently Asked Question guide (“FAQ”) for all parents/guardians of current and prospective students of SOCS regarding the new legal changes surrounding Senate Bill 277 (“SB 277”) and required student immunizations.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**What is SB 277?**

Governor Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill 277 in 2015, which, among other things, amended *Health and Safety Code* section 120335 to require that all students, upon first admission to a private and public elementary or secondary school, child care center, day nursery, nursery school, family day care home or development center, show proof of immunization against the following diseases:

1. Diphtheria
2. Haemophilus influenzae type b
3. Measles
4. Mumps
5. Pertussis (whooping cough)
6. Poliomyelitis
7. Rubella
8. Tetanus
9. Hepatitis B
10. Varicella (chickenpox).

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Senate Bill 277 allows the Department of Health to identify other diseases requiring proof of immunization based on recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the United States Department of Health and Human Services and other appropriate agencies.

Starting July 1, 2016, all students who are admitted for the first time to an educational institution identified in the list above and all students advancing to 7th grade must provide proof of vaccination. (Health and Safety Code section 120335(g)(3).)

Senate Bill 277 provides the following limited exemptions to the vaccination requirement:

1. If a student submitted a personal belief exemption prior to January 1, 2016, that student can remain enrolled in a public school program without submitting proof of vaccination until the student enrolls in their next “grade span.” The law defines grade spans as a) birth to preschool, b) K to 6th grade and c) 7th to 12th grade. In other words, only when a student moves from one of these grade spans to the next must the student provide proof of vaccination. (Health and Safety Code section 120335(g)(1),(2).)
2. A written statement by a licensed physician attesting that the physical condition of a student is such, or medical circumstances relating to the student are such, that immunization is not considered safe, may also exempt the student from showing proof of immunization. The statement must identify the specific nature and probable duration of the medical condition or circumstances that contraindicated immunization. (Health and Safety Code section 120370(a).)
3. Students enrolled in home-based private school and independent study programs are also exempt. (Health and Safety Code section 120335(f).)

Please note that pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 120370(b) and notwithstanding the exemptions noted above, if an educational institution has good cause to believe that a student has been exposed to a disease listed above and his or her documentary proof of immunization status does not show proof of immunization against that disease, that student may be temporarily excluded from the school or institution until the local health officer is satisfied that the student is no longer at risk of developing or transmitting the disease.

Must I vaccinate my student in order to remain enrolled in their current program at SOCS as they are independent study programs?

SOCS is an independent study program, and its primary method of instruction is independent study in accordance with Education Code section 551745 *et seq.* As such, a student enrolled in SOCS is exempt from the requirements of Senate Bill 277, as enacted, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 120335(f). If a student were to enroll in another educational program that is not an independent study program, of course, then the requirements of Senate Bill 277 would apply to that student.

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As stated above, the law exempts a student who is enrolled in an independent study program and does not receive classroom-based instruction.

What are the current vaccination requirements in order to enroll my student at SOCS?

1. Students entering kindergarten who are not exempt will need the following immunization requirements:

Immunization	Dosage
Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Tetanus (DTaP)	Five (5) doses
Polio	Four (4) doses
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)	Two (2) doses
Hepatitis B (Hep B)	Three (3) doses
Varicella (chickenpox)	Two (2) doses

2. Students entering 7th grade who are not exempt from the immunization requirements must show proof of the following immunizations:

Immunization	Dosage
Tetanus, reduced Diphtheria, and acellular Pertussis (Tdap)	One (1) dose
Varicella	Two (2) Doses

What may happen if I choose not to vaccinate my student and there is an outbreak of measles or another type of communicable disease?

Beyond specific medical procedures, in the event of an outbreak of a communicable disease, if there is good cause to believe that a student has been exposed to a communicable disease and the student does not have the required immunization against that disease, that student may be

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temporarily excluded from the School until the local health officer (county department of health) is satisfied that the student is no longer at risk of developing or transmitting the disease.

How do I submit my Personal Belief Exemption to SOCS, and what is the deadline?

Personal Belief Exemptions are no longer accepted as of December 31, 2015. If a student submitted a personal belief exemption prior to January 1, 2016, that student can remain enrolled in a public school program without submitting proof of vaccination until the student enrolls in their next “grade span.” The law defines grade spans as:

1. birth to preschool
2. K to 6th grade
3. 7th to 12th grade.

When a student moves from one of these grade spans to the next must the student provide proof of vaccination. (Health and Safety Code section 120335(g)(1),(2).)

This FAQ is intended to provide general information only. This FAQ is not intended to address all questions about SB 277 or immunizations, is not a substitute for legal advice, and to what extent this information conflicts with any relevant legal authority, such legal authority controls.

For the most recent up-to-date information about SB 277 and the immunization requirements:

1. Visit the California Department of Public Health’s website at www.shotsforschool.org
2. Contact your local health department or county office of education.