

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS, IMMUNIZATIONS AND ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

Health Examinations

Health Examination Certificates or Waivers

On or before the 90th day after a learner's entrance into first grade at **ACLC Community Learning Center** (the "School"), all learners must provide a certificate approved by the California Department of Health Services documenting that within the prior 18 months, the child had received the appropriate health screening and evaluation services as provided by Health & Safety Code section 124040. Alternatively, the learner must provide a waiver signed by the learner's parents/guardians indicating that they do not want or are unable to obtain the health screening and evaluation services for their child. If the waiver indicates that the parents/guardians are unable to obtain services for the child, the reasons why should be included in the waiver. If the learner fails to provide the required documentation, the learner will be excluded from the School for not more than five days. In limited circumstances, up to five percent of the School's first grade enrollment may obtain exemptions from exclusion if the School contacts the learner's parents/guardians at least twice before the 90th day after entrance to the first grade and they refuse to provide either a certificate or waiver. These exemptions shall only be used in extraordinary circumstances, including, but not limited to, family situations of great dysfunction or disruption, including substance abuse by parents or guardians, child abuse or child neglect.

Upon enrollment, the School will verify that the learner's file contains a certificate of the health examinations required under the Health & Safety Code, or a waiver from those requirements.

Health Examinations by the School

The Governing Board recognizes that periodic health examinations of learners may lead to the detection and treatment of conditions that impact learning. Health examinations also may help in determining whether special adaptations of the School's program are necessary. The School shall conduct health examinations of learners as needed to insure proper care of the learners.

Vision and Hearing Tests: Upon first enrollment in the School and at least every third year thereafter until the child has completed the eighth grade, the School shall test the learner's vision and hearing. The vision test shall include tests for visual acuity and color vision, although the color vision shall be appraised once and only on male learners, the results of which shall be entered in the health records and need not begin until the learner is in first grade. Classroom facilitators are responsible for continuous observation of the appearance, behavior and complaints of learners that might indicate vision problems. Where a learner's school performance begins to give evidence that the existence of the problem might be caused by a visual difficulty, a visual evaluation shall be done in consultation with the school nurse.

The vision evaluation may be waived by the parents/guardians if they present a certificate from a physician and surgeon or an optometrist setting out the results of a determination of the child's vision, including visual acuity and color. Parents/guardians may also avoid the testing and

observation if they file with the School Director a statement in writing 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.

A parent/guardian may file annually with the School's Director a statement in writing, signed by the parent/guardian, stating that he/she will not consent to a physical examination of his/her child. The learner will thereafter be exempt from physical examinations, but if there is good reason to believe that the learner is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the learner will be sent home and not be permitted to return to school until the School Director is satisfied that any contagious or infectious disease does not exist.

Screening: Every female learner in grade 7 and every male learner in grade 8 shall be screened for the condition known as scoliosis. The screening shall be in accordance with standards established by the State Department of Education. The screening shall take place during the regular school day and any staff time devoted to these activities shall be redirected from other ongoing activities not related to the learner's health care. If a learner is suspected of having scoliosis, the School will notify the parents. The notice will include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treating it at an early age, and the public services available, after diagnosis, for treatment.

The Director, or designee, shall ensure that staff employed to examine learners are fully qualified to do so and exercise proper care of each learner and that examination results are kept confidential. Records related to these examinations shall be available only in accordance with law.

The School Director may make reports to the Governing Board regarding the number of learners found to have physical problems and the effort made to correct them from time to time. The reports shall in no way reveal the identity of learners.

Immunizations

To protect the health of all learners and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases, the Governing Board desires to cooperate with state and local health agencies to encourage immunization of all district learners against preventable diseases.

Admission: Learners 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 learner has received, in accordance with law. Learners may be conditionally admitted in accordance with the regulations promulgated by the Department of Health Services. If a learner conditionally admitted fails to fulfill the conditions of admission, the School will prohibit the learner from further attendance until that learner has been fully immunized as required by law.

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 learner 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 learner from attendance.

Exemptions from Requirements: Learners will be exempted from immunization requirements if his/her parent or guardian files with the School a letter or affidavit stating that the immunization is contrary to his or her beliefs. Additionally, a learner 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 to the effect that the physical condition of the learner is such, or medical circumstances relating to the learner are such, that the immunization is not considered safe. However, whenever there is good cause to believe that the person has been exposed to a communicable disease for which immunization is required, that learner may be temporarily excluded from the School until the local health officer is satisfied that the person is no longer at risk of developing the disease.

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.

The Director, or designee, may arrange for qualified medical personnel to administer immunizations at School to any Learner whose parent/guardian has consented in writing.

Oral Health

Admission: By May 31 of each school year, learners 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 learner 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.

Notice: 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.

Report to County Office of Education: By December 31 of each year, the school will submit a report 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;
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- 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 untreated decay;
- the total number of pupils who did not return either the assessment form or the waiver request to the school

CLCS Board Approved: 3/24/09
