CALIFORNIA IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR
Child Care

REFERENCE
Health and Safety Code, Division 105, Part 2, Chapter 1, Sections 120325-120380; California Code of
Regulations, Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 8, Sections 6000-6075

INSTRUCTIONS
To attend child care, children must have immunizations outlined below by age. Parents must present their
child's Immunization Record as proof of immunization. Copy the full date of each shot onto the blue Califor-
nia School Immunization Record card and then determine if the child is up-to-date. Blue cards are available
free from the Immunization Coordinator at your local health department. As the child care provider, it is your
responsibility to follow up regularly until all shots are finished.

Please note the temporary change in entry requirements for Hib.

IMMUNIZATIONS (SHOTS) REQUIRED TO
ATTEND CHILD CARE, BY AGE

Age When Enrolling Immunizations ( Shots) Required
2–3 months..............1 each of Polio, DTaP, Hib, Hep B
4–5 months..............2 each of Polio, DTaP, Hib, Hep B
6–14 months..........3 DTaP
2 each of Polio, Hib, Hep B
15–17 months.........3 each of Polio, DTaP
2 Hep B
1 MMR, on or after the first birthday
1 Hib at any age (Changed from
"on or after the first birthday")
18 months–5 years......3 Polio
4 DTaP
3 Hep B
1 MMR, on or after the first birthday
1 Hib at any age (Changed from
"on or after the first birthday")
1 Varicella (chickenpox)

Vaccines
DTaP: Diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis combined vaccine. Record may show DT or DTP.
Hib: Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine; required only for children up to age 4 years, 6 months.
MMR: Measles, mumps, and rubella combined vaccine.
Hep B: Hepatitis B vaccine.
Varicella: Chickenpox vaccine.

WHEN NEXT SHOTS ARE DUE
Polio #2 ..................... 6–10 weeks after 1st dose
Polio #3 ...................... 6 weeks–12 months after 2nd dose
DTP or DTaP #2, #3 .... 4–8 weeks after previous dose
Hib #2 ......................... 2–3 months after 1st dose
DTP or DTaP #4 ........ 6–12 months after 3rd dose
Hep B #2 ..................... 1–2 months after 1st dose
Hep B #3 .................. Under age 18 months: 2–12 months after 2nd dose and at least 4 months after 1st dose
Age 18 months and older: 2–6 months after 2nd dose and at least 4 months after 1st dose

EXEMPTIONS
The law allows (a) parents/guardians to choose exemptions from immunization requirements based on their
personal beliefs, and (b) physicians of children to choose medical exemptions from them. The law does not
allow parents/guardians to choose an exemption simply because the "shot" record is lost or incomplete and it is
too much trouble to get to a physician or clinic to correct the problem. The back of the blue California School
Immunization Record has instructions and an affidavit to be signed by parents who want a personal beliefs
exemption. An up-to-date list of children with exemptions should be maintained separately by the child care
staff so that these children can be quickly identified and excluded from attendance if an outbreak occurs.