

The Basic Procedures

Obtain the Child’s Personal Immunization Record

Before children under age 18 years are admitted to any pre-kindergarten facility¹ or (TK/K-12) school² in California, either public or private, California law³ requires that a parent or guardian present an immunization record to staff. Usually, this is the child’s personal immunization record given to parents by the doctor or clinic. **The personal immunization record must:**

- ✓ identify the student by name and date of birth
- ✓ show the date (month, day, and year) each required vaccine dose was received
- ✓ have the type of vaccine received
- ✓ include the name of the physician or agency who gave the vaccine.

In some cases, it will be a yellow California Immunization Record (Figure 1), or similar form given to parents by their doctors. Records accessed through [CAIR](#) or from other states and countries are also acceptable.

Staff should refer parents without records to their regular doctor; if a child does not have a health care provider, parents may be referred to the [local health department](#).

Figure 1. California Immunization Record

¹ Pre-kindergarten facilities include child-care facilities, child-care centers, day nurseries, nursery schools, family day care homes (also known as family child care homes), or development centers. There is an exemption from immunization requirements for children attending “drop-in” day care centers ([AB 3049, 2002](#)). Parents do not sign a contract with the center for ongoing care, but use these centers on an “ad hoc” basis.

² Home schools are subject to the same immunization record keeping requirements as other schools or pre-kindergarten facilities (see [California Education Code, Title 2, Sections 33190-48222](#)).

³ [17 CCR section 6065](#)