

The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of periodic health examinations conducted according to state health regulations.

To determine the health status of students, facilitate the removal of handicaps to learning, and determine whether special adaptations of the school program may be necessary, the Board shall require that periodic examinations be conducted which include tests for vision, hearing and scoliosis. All personnel employed to examine students shall exercise proper care of each student being examined and shall ensure that the examination results are kept confidential.

A parent/guardian may annually file a statement with the principal withholding consent to any physical examination of his/her child. The child shall be exempt, but shall be subject to exclusion due to a suspected contagious or infectious disease. (Education Code 49451)

The principal of each school shall notify parents/guardians of the rights of students and parents/guardians relating to health examinations.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop the necessary procedures to implement this policy.

Interscholastic Athletic Competition

All students who participate as cheerleaders, song leaders, or athletes in interscholastic sports are required to file a current medical examination. Compliance with the medication examination requirement is not necessary for participants in a play day or a field day activity occurring occasionally during a school year in which students of one or more particular grade levels from two or more schools in the District participate in athletic contests.

All medical examinations shall be performed by a licensed physician holding a valid certificate to practice medicine and surgery in California.

If a student sustains an injury or serious illness, the student may be required by school personnel to have another examination prior to further interscholastic competition.

A student who has been excused from the physical education program because of a medical reason may not participate in any interscholastic athletic competition.

All students engaging in interscholastic athletic competition are required to meet accident insurance requirements prescribed by law.

Notification of Rights

The principal of each school shall notify parents and guardians of the rights of students and parents/guardians relating to health examinations.

Medical Examinations

1. Unless a written statement is filed annually with the principal by parents/guardians requesting exemption of his/her student from health examinations, the student will be subject to routine tests including audiometer, eye and dental inspection from time to time, and, upon referral, a complete physical examination. Tuberculosis skin tests and immunizations may be given upon the written permission of the parent/guardian. (Education Code 49451)

Students reasonably suspected by the district medical office of having tuberculosis may be ordered to take a medical examination to show that the student does not have communicable tuberculosis unless the examination is contrary to the student's beliefs as provided by law. Any student may be excluded from school by the district medical officer or the Board of Trustees if it is believed that the student is afflicted with communicable tuberculosis. (Health and Safety Code 121505)

2. Parents/guardians may be requested to secure medical examinations for their children at these prescribed intervals:
 - a. Entrance into junior high school.
 - b. Entrance into high school.
3. Parents/guardians will be required to secure medical examinations for their children in specified areas unless they file an exemption (or the student if eighteen [18] years of age or older files an exemption), pursuant to the Education Code and Health and Safety Code. These areas include the following:
 - a. Current requirements as prescribed by the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program.
 - b. Interschool athletic competition.
 - c. Remedial physical education.
 - d. Classes for the severely developmentally disabled.
 - e. Classes for the hard of hearing.
 - f. Special day class for pregnant minors.

4. Interscholastic Athletic Competition
 - a. All students who participate as cheerleaders, song leaders, or athletes in interscholastic sports, grades 7-12 are required to file a current medical examination. Compliance with the medical examination requirement is not necessary for participants in a play day or a field day activity occurring occasionally during a school year in which students of one or more particular grade levels from two or more schools in the school district participate in athletic contests.
 - b. All medical examinations shall be performed by a licensed physician holding a valid certificate to practice medicine and surgery in California.
 - c. All students participating in any interscholastic sports activity in grades 7-12 will have on file at the school evidence of receiving medical authorization to participate in interscholastic sports within the twelve (12) month period extending from the examination date to the end of the competitive sport in which they are participating preferably during the current school year (July 1 through June 30).
 - d. The medical examination must be completed and must be on file in the school prior to sports practice.
 - e. If a student sustains an injury or serious illness after his/her medical examination authorizing participation in interscholastic athletic competition, the student may be required by school personnel to have another examination prior to further interscholastic competition.
 - f. A student who has been excused from the physical education program because of a medical reason may not participate in any interscholastic athletic competition.
 - g. Students will be exempted from the physical examination required for interscholastic athletic competition when they have on file at school a statement, in writing, signed by the parents or guardians (or by the student if eighteen [18] years of age or older) stating that consent to a physical examination will not be given. Pursuant to Section 49451 of the Education Code, this statement must be filed annually with the school.
 - h. All students engaging in interscholastic athletic competition are required to meet accident insurance requirements prescribed by law. The procedures for compliance are updated annually by the coordinator of health services and distributed to each school principal. (Education Code 32220, 32221)

5. Mandatory Screenings**Vision Screening**

Students shall have their vision tested by qualified personnel authorized by the District. (Education Code 49452, 49454)

Students shall have their vision examined upon first enrollment if they are new to California. Examinations shall take place at the 7th and 10th grades for all students. The results of the vision appraisal shall be entered into the student's health record. All students shall be tested for visual acuity. Color vision shall be tested once and only in male students. External observations of the student's eyes, visual performance and perceptions shall be done by the school nurse and the classroom teacher. (Education Code 49455)

The above evaluation of a student's vision may be waived at the parent/guardian's request if the parent/guardian presents a certificate from either a medical doctor or an optometrist stating the results of an examination of the student's vision including visual acuity, and, in male children, color vision. 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 written report shall not include a referral to any private practitioner. (Education Code 49456)

Hearing Screening

Each pupil shall be given a screening test in 8th, 10th or 11th grades and first entry into the California public school system. Hearing tests may be given more frequently as needed. A pure tone test shall be given to all pupils who fail the screening tests.

The school shall provide the parents or guardians of children who fail the hearing test with a written notification of the test results and recommend that a medical and audiological evaluation be obtained. Dates and results of all screening tests shall be recorded on each pupil's health record. Copies of all threshold tests shall be filed with the pupil's health records.

Scoliosis Screening

The Board shall provide for the screening of students for the condition known as scoliosis. Every female student in the 7th grade and every male student in the 8th grade shall be screened. The screening shall follow the standards established by the State Department of Education and shall be performed by qualified personnel as specified by law. (Education Code 49452.5)

Persons performing the screening shall not solicit, encourage or advise treatment of the student for scoliosis. The same shall apply to any other condition discovered in the course of the screening for scoliosis. (Education Code 49452.5)

The parent/guardian or any student suspected of having scoliosis shall be notified. The notice shall include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treatment at an early age, and the public services available for treatment. A referral to the appropriate community resources for diagnosis and treatment shall be made. (Education Code 49452.5)

Christian Science Exemptions

The State of California upholds the right of the Christian Scientist to exercise freedom to choose non-medical means of treatment by granting exemptions from mental and physical examinations, medical treatment, and health education in schools when objectionable to religious belief. The procedures set forth below were developed in considerations of these rights.

1. A claim for exemption should be filed by the parents at the beginning of each school year and whenever a student is transferred to another school. A filed claim is valid for only one year. The Christian Science Religious Exemption form which is provided by the church includes the following:
 - a. Medical treatment other than first aid.
 - b. Evidence of health screening.
 - c. All physical examinations.
 - d. Visual acuity examinations.
 - e. Immunization from poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus.
 - f. Psychiatric, psychological and mental health examinations.
 - g. Health education.
 - h. Testing for sickle cell anemia.
 - i. Instruction in or assemblies involving hypnotism.

- The responsibility for initiating the filing of the exemption form rests with the parent.
2. When the school receives the exemption form it should be routed to the school nurse. It will be the nurse's responsibility to record this information on the cumulative health record and to notify the appropriate staff member(s) regarding the exemption.
 3. Students participating in interscholastic athletic competition may be exempted from the required physical examination when they have on file at school a statement in writing signed by the parent/guardian (or by the student if eighteen [18] years of age or older) stating that consent to a physical examination will not be given.
 4. When required courses of study include instruction in health, family life and sex education that conflict with the religious beliefs of the individual, the student may be excused from that part of the training. The teacher shall excuse the student from this portion of the curriculum and will provide another assignment in lieu of the work missed. If a student is exempted from instruction, the grade is not to be penalized if the student satisfactorily completes the substitute assignment. Normally, simple instruction in first aid is not considered objectionable. However, a provision for exemption does exist.
 5. Christian Science parents should have on file with the school the names of persons who should be contacted in case of an emergency.
 6. Parents of Christian Science students are to be encouraged to discuss any of the aforementioned procedures about which they have questions. Inquiries and concerns may be directed to the district office.

Legal References:

Education Code

32220	Insurance for Athletic Teams
32221	Insurance for Athletic Team Members
48211	Exclusion
48213	Exclusion, Notice to Parents
48114	Review of Decisions to Exclude
49450	Physical Examinations
49451	Student's Exemption from Physical Exam
49452	Sight and Hearing Testing
49452.5	Scoliosis Screening
49454	Hearing Tests
49455	Vision Screening
49456	Reporting Visual Defects
49457	Reports

Health and Safety Code

121475	Tuberculosis Tests for Pupils
121505	Examination Contrary to Personal Beliefs

California Code of Regulations, Title 5

590	Vision Screening
591	Employees Authorized to Give Tests
592	Acceptable Course in Vision Screening
593	Responsibility as to Eligibility
594	Examination of Visual Acuity
595	Examination of Color Vision

California Code of Regulations, Title 17

2951	Testing Standards
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Board of Trustees

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