

SCHOOLS BULLETIN

SACRAMENTO COUNTY



**PUBLIC
HEALTH**

Promote • Prevent • Protect

Immunization Updates from Sacramento County Public Health

June 2025

HELPFUL CONTACTS

Sacramento County Immunization

Assistance Program

Email:

Immunize@sacounty.gov

Phone: (916) 875- 7468

[Website](#)

Sacramento County COVID-19

Email:

Immunize@sacounty.gov

[Website](#)

Communicable Disease Control

Email:

sacdhs@sacounty.gov

Phone: (916) 875- 5881

Website: [Electronic](#)

[Disease Reporting](#)

[\(sacounty.gov\)](#)

Additional Resources:

- [CDC Vaccines and Immunizations](#)
- [Stay Up to date with COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [CDPH Immunization Branch](#)
- [Shots for School](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [CDC Vaccine Storage and Handling Resources](#)

CHANGE TO 7TH GRADE VARICELLA REQUIREMENT

Beginning July 1, 2025, there will no longer be a requirement to verify two doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine for students advancing to 7th grade. This change reflects the fact that most students will have already met the requirement in previous years as part of the existing immunization requirements for school entry.

However, the two dose varicella requirement will continue to apply to students who are newly admitted to any grade level, including 7th grade. Typically, a new [admission](#) refers to new students enrolling in a CA school or new school district for the first time and not simply promoting from one grade to the next within the same school district.

Schools will no longer be required to check for varicella immunizations at the time of 7th grade advancement after June 30, 2025. Immunization records should still be reviewed for all new admissions, regardless of grade level, to ensure compliance with all vaccine requirements. The California Department of Health FAQs site provides additional information about this [2019 regulation change](#).

UNHOUSED PEDIATRIC IMMUNIZATION PROJECT

Sacramento County's Immunization Assistance Program Team attended the California Immunization Coalition (CIC) Summit in Riverside, California in April to present their Unhoused Pediatric Immunizations Project, an initiative focused on increasing vaccine accessibility for unhoused pediatric residents in Sacramento County. Through this project, eligible children receive free vaccines via the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, helping to close immunization gaps in vulnerable communities. From October 2024 to May 12, 2025, the Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) Immunization Assistance Program (IAP) staff have conducted 20 unhoused mobile clinics in Sacramento County. SCPH IAP has administered 345 vaccines to 84 unhoused pediatric residents. In 2025, 23% of the clients at our stationary clinic have been identified as experiencing homelessness and 338 vaccines have been administered to these pediatric residents.

PERINATAL HEPATITIS B

What are the differences between Hepatitis A, B, and C? These are all viral infections that affect the liver, but they differ significantly in their modes of transmission, prevention strategies, and clinical outcomes.

Hepatitis A is transmitted via the fecal-oral route, often through close contact or contaminated food and water. This causes acute illness. Hepatitis A vaccine is safe and effective.

Hepatitis B is spread through contact with infected blood and body fluids, including perinatal transmission. This can cause both acute and chronic liver disease. Chronic (long-term) infection is a major risk factor for developing liver cancer, [according to the American Cancer Society](#) and [the National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#). An effective vaccine is available to protect against this virus.

Hepatitis C is transmitted through blood. This can lead to chronic infection. Chronic (long-term) infection is a major risk factor for developing liver cancer, [according to the American Cancer Society](#) and [the National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#). No vaccine is available, but curative treatments exist.

Sacramento County has a Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBP) for infants born to mothers who are carriers of hepatitis B. This program coordinates the testing and immunizations of susceptible family members and household contacts and assists families to stop the spread of perinatal hepatitis B.

The PHBP Case Management Nurse is available for guidance and education. Please call (916) 875- 7468 and request to speak to the Sacramento County Perinatal Hepatitis B Case Management Nurse.

MEASLES

As of June 23, 2025, a total of [seventeen measles cases have been confirmed in California in 2025](#). Sacramento County Public Health has [confirmed one case of measles in Sacramento County](#). The measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine is effective, and two doses of MMR provide 97% protection against measles. Remain alert for potential measles cases. If measles is suspected or there has been a known exposure, immediately isolate the patient to prevent further transmission. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) provides information for [Preventing the Spread of Infections in K-12 Schools](#). The [\(CDC\) offers additional guidance via Be Ready for Measles Toolkit](#). Consider using a CDC PDF that outlines [Preparing for Questions Parents May Ask about Vaccines](#).

SACRAMENTO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH IMMUNIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) Immunization Assistance Program (IAP) offers Vaccines for Children (VFC) clinics by appointment for eligible individuals (e.g. uninsured, Medi-Cal eligible or enrolled, American Indian or Alaska Native) under 19 years of age. Please call (916) 875- 7468 or email immunize@saccounty.gov to schedule an appointment.

CALIFORNIA IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY REMINDER

The California Immunization Registry (CAIR2) is a confidential and secure statewide system used to record and track immunizations. Assembly Bill (AB) 1797 requires healthcare organizations to [enroll in CAIR2](#) and record all immunizations administered. The law also mandates that race and ethnicity must be recorded in CAIR2 when entering the administered vaccinations. Providers are required to document vaccine administration in the medical record system within 24 hours of administration and report doses administered to [CAIR2](#) within 72 hours. To learn more, see [AB 1797 FAQs](#). Please take a moment to verify that all immunization records from your Electronic Health Record (EHR) are transferring to CAIR2.

PERTUSSIS (WHOOPING COUGH)

Pertussis cases continue to [rise in California and throughout the nation](#). Pertussis is a very contagious respiratory disease and can cause serious illness in infants (younger than one year) and individuals with underlying health conditions. It typically follows a pattern with peaks in cases every 3-5 years. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) determine that pertussis cases increase in both unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals since [protection from vaccinations fades over time](#). In the first four months of 2025, [70 cases have been identified in Sacramento County](#). Upholding recommended vaccination timelines is important for individuals and community protection.

DIGITAL VACCINE RECORD

The Digital Vaccine Record (DVR) is an official electronic immunization record generated from the California Immunization Registry (CAIR2). [Discover more about how parents/ guardians can access their children's DVR](#).

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES (ACIP)

[The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) develop recommendations on immunization practices to reduce morbidity and mortality from vaccine preventable diseases. ACIP meetings are open to the public via live webcast.

VACCINE STORAGE AND HANDLING

To maintain vaccine effectiveness, all vaccines must be stored within the temperature ranges recommended by the manufacturer. The California Department of Public Health provides detailed guidance and [job aids](#) on the [EZIZ website](#) covering best practices for vaccine storage units, digital data loggers, and temperature monitoring.