

New Immunization Requirement for the 2011–12 School Year

Pertussis (Whooping Cough) Immunization Requirements for Students:

The recent passage of Assembly Bill 354 requires that all students in grades 7–12 will need proof of a Tdap (*Tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid and acellular pertussis vaccine*) booster shot before they will be allowed to start school for the 2011–12 school year.

The new law applies to all public and private schools and starts with the enrollment in the Fall 2011 semester. (It does not affect students enrolled in summer school.) This requirement will be met by receiving one dose of Tdap vaccine on or after the 7th birthday.

Once your child receives the Tdap vaccine, please bring their immunization record to the school office so a copy can be made and they can be cleared to start school for the 2011–12 school year. If you are unsure whether your child has received this vaccine, please contact your health care provider.

Your child may have received the Tdap vaccine as one of the immunizations offered by the El Dorado County Public Health Department (EDCPHD) as part of the IZ Xtreme Program held at the middle schools the past several years. If you elected to have your child receive this vaccine at that time, the requirement has been met. Students were given a copy of the immunizations they received at that time. Please bring this record to the school office so we may make a copy of it for their school record.

If your child needs the Tdap vaccine, please contact your health care provider or call the EDCPHD at 530-621-6100.

If you have any questions regarding this new law, please contact the school nurse at your child's school. Updates on implementing this new law will be posted at a later date in the 2010–11 school year at www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Pertussis.aspx.

Thank you,

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