



22 June 2021

To Parents and Guardians of New and Returning non vaccinated students

Regarding Unvaccinated students and students with Medical Exemptions.

This memo is to alert you about the change in laws regarding immunizations and exemptions. The information contained here is from the Shots for Schools website.

<https://www.shotsforschool.org/laws/exemptions/>

*Under Senate Bills (SB) 276 and SB 714 (Pan, 2019), all new medical exemptions for school and child care entry must be issued through CAIR-ME beginning January 1, 2021. Medical exemptions can only be issued by MDs or DOs licensed in California and must meet applicable Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#), and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) criteria. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/index.html>*

If your child has a medical exemption, the rules have changed. However for the gateway grades of TK/K and 7<sup>th</sup> exemptions must now be received from the State's new program the California Immunization Registry- Medical Exemptions program, CAiR-ME. If your child is beyond the gateway grades TK /K or 7<sup>th</sup>, such as in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>, then the exemption is still valid, Unless it has expired by date or if the physician granting the exemption has a suspended license for granting exemptions.

*A medical exemption filed at a pre-kindergarten facility or school remains valid until the earliest of:*

- *When the child enrolls in the next grade span (TK/K-6th grade, 7th-12th grade)*
- *The expiration date specified in a temporary medical exemption*
- *Revocation of the exemption because the issuing physician has been subject to disciplinary action from the physician's licensing entity.*

Several families have exemptions from Dr. Ron Kennedy, who has been disciplined, which means those exemptions are no longer valid. Another group has exemptions from Dr. Mary Kelly Sutton, who has been accused, but not suspended. This could still happen, however at this time, the exemptions are valid.

Students without vaccinations or current exemptions are welcome in the home only program at La Vida Charter School and activities several times per month are being planned for next year. The non immunizations and expired exemptions limit students from attending the onsite classes. Students may participate in the catch up immunization program within 30 days of the first day of school and be able to attend onsite classes. A note from the doctor with the immunization schedule must be provided to the school.

La Vida will be monitoring the immunization records. If a child starts the year with the promise of a catch up program and does not acquire the necessary records, then they will be required to stay at home in the home study program and not attend classes.

Note: Personal Belief Exemptions have not been allowed since 2016.

The link to the 8500 physicians who have been reprimanded can be found in Shots for Schools link #18. listed at the very beginning of this memo along with other pertinent information. There are Spanish Translation links in #4.

To track the new actions by the California Medical Board, a search for the physician can be made through this license search website <https://search.dca.ca.gov/>  
Tip- Under Boards and Bureaus type in 'California Medical Board'  
and under License Type-write in 'Physicians and Surgeons'

Vaxopedia.org has an article with links to the cases against the doctors mentioned by name in this letter. <https://vaxopedia.org/2021/04/18/is-your-childs-medical-exemption-in-california-getting-revoked/>

This information memo is being sent out via postal mail and on Parent Square so the links are easily followed.

We hope this letter is informative and please understand that we are compassionate for any disappointment that it may bring.

Sincerely,

Ann Kelly  
Executive Director