



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Michael Hill *Health Agency Director*

Penny Borenstein, MD, MPH *Health Officer/Public Health Director*

PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY

Date: June 3, 2021

Contact: Rick Rosen, MD, MPH (805)781-5500, frosen@co.slo.ca.us

New Process for Issuing Medical Exemptions for Childcare and School Immunizations in California

On January 1, 2021, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) launched the California Immunization Registry – Medical Exemption website (CAIR-ME, <https://cair.cdph.ca.gov/exemptions/home>) to request, issue, manage, and track medical exemptions from required immunizations for children in child care/preschool and school (grades K-12).

Medical exemptions for children can only be issued using the [CAIR Medical Exemptions website](#), MDs and DOs licensed in California can register to use CAIR-ME at any time in order to issue a medical exemption. Instructions are available on [CAIR-ME website](#) along with on-screen prompts. You can also watch a [webinar](#) and review [slides](#) on how to register and use CAIR-ME.

Pursuant to California law, medical exemptions are not valid if they were issued prior to January 1, 2020 by any physician who has had disciplinary action taken by the Medical Board of California or Osteopathic Medical Board of California. (Health & Safety Code, §120372(d)(4)). To find out if a physician has been disciplined, you can look up an issuing physician's name or medical license number on the list of disciplined physicians (https://eziz.org/assets/docs/shotsforschool/2021MBC_OMBCDisciplinedDoctors.pdf)

Children whose medical exemptions are no longer valid for the reasons above must provide updated documentation to their school or childcare facility prior to the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year for schools, or September 1, 2021 for childcare facilities.

Please note that documents such as written letters and lab results about immunity do not suffice for school and childcare entry. Schools and child care facilities can only accept immunization records or a medical exemption for immunizations issued through CAIR-ME.

For more information about immunizations required for childcare and school entry, [click here](#) If you have questions, please email medicalexemptions@cdph.ca.gov.

Public Health Department

2191 Johnson Avenue | San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 | (P) 805-781-5500 | (F) 805-781-5543

www.slopublichealth.org