



Welcome to

CHILDCARE & SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS – MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS

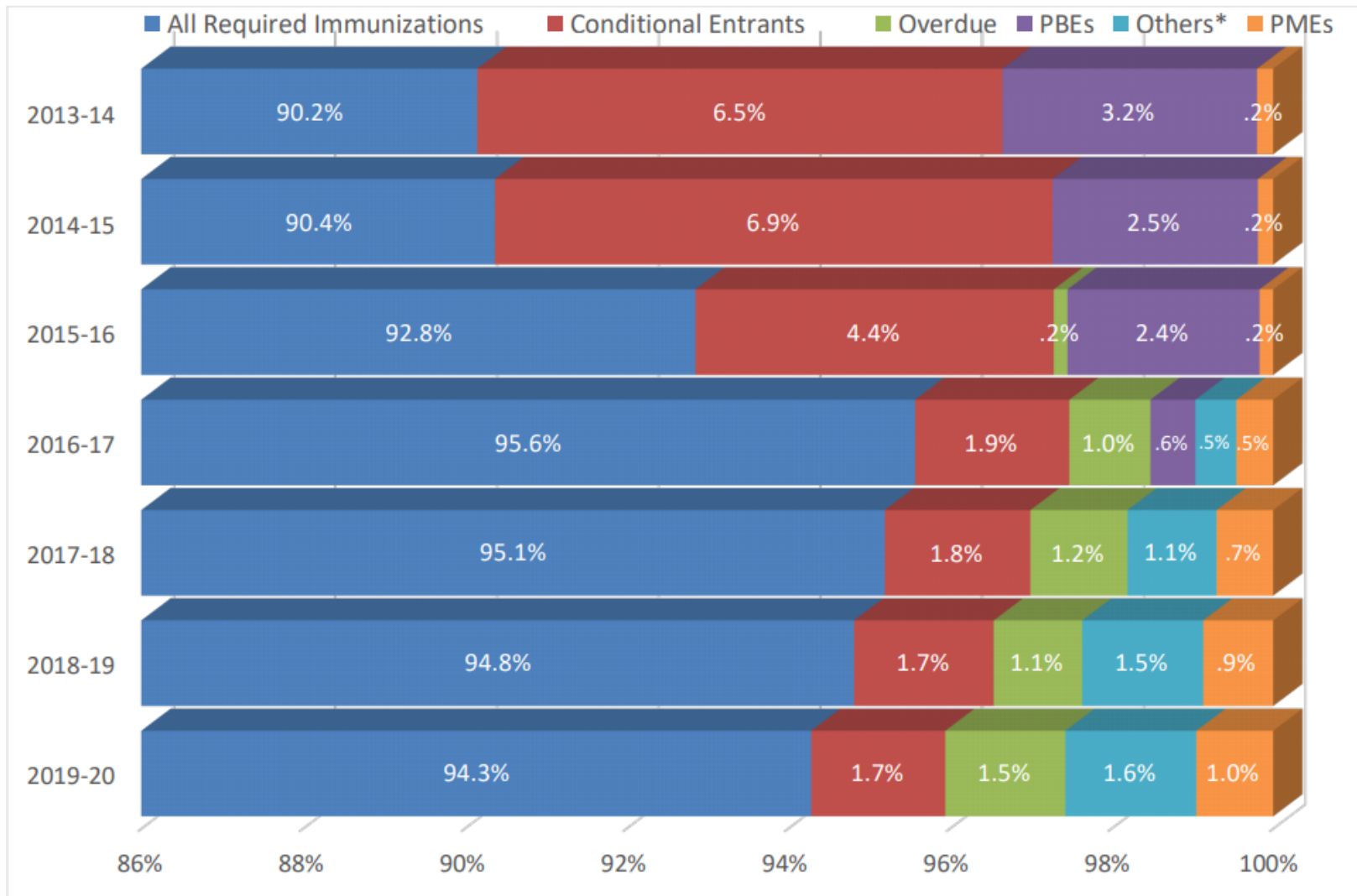
JANUARY 2021



Presentation Objectives

- Overview of new medical exemption requirements
- Overview of California Immunization Registry-Medical Exemption website (CAIR-ME)
- Resources

School Assessments



*Other children lacking required immunizations under criteria specified in SB 277.

Figure 6. Percentage of All Kindergarten Students by Reported Admission Status by School Year, 2013-2014 to 2019-2020. In the 2014-2015 and

Medical Exemption Laws

SB 276, SB 714 (2019)

- By **January 1, 2021**, CDPH to develop medical exemption form, exemption standards, and database
- MEs should meet applicable Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) criteria for appropriate medical exemptions or be consistent with the relevant standard of care.

Medical Exemption Laws

SB 276, SB 714 (2019)

- CDPH may revoke exemptions in CAIR-ME that do not meet national standards.
- CDPH must notify Medical Board if physician has 5+ revoked MEs in one year
- Parents may appeal revoked MEs; Independent Expert Panel reviews appeals and renders final decision
- Physicians restricted from submitting new MEs if meet certain criteria (probation or pending accusation for immunization-related practices, or if deemed public health risk)
- Permanent MEs may remain valid until next grade span (birth-preschool, TK/K-6th, 7th-12th)

Medical Exemption Laws

SB 276, SB 714 (2019)

- CDPH to review subset of MEs
 - From schools (K-12) and childcares:
 - <95% immunization rate
 - Do not report rates to CDPH
 - Physicians that submit 5+ MEs in a calendar year
 - If determined it is necessary to protect public health

Medical Exemption Laws

SB 276, SB 714 (2019)

Physician requirements:

- Inform parent of requirements
- Conduct a physical exam of child
- If not the child's primary care physician, explain reason for filling out form instead of PCP
- Cannot charge for the form or physical exam related to renewal of a temporary medical exemption
- Authorize release of records related to exemption to CDPH and Medical Boards

California Immunization Registry – Medical Exemption Website (CAIR-ME)

Log In

Register

Forgot password



CAIR Medical Exemptions
from Immunizations
for School & Child Care

The California Immunization Registry Medical Exemption web site is a secure site for physicians to issue and manage standardized medical exemptions for children in school or child care. Parents use the same site to request medical exemptions from vaccination for their children. Schools and child care facilities can monitor and get updates for medical exemptions issued for children in attendance.

For Physicians



California-licensed MDs and DOs can register to issue and manage medical exemptions in the CAIR Medical Exemption web site. Registration is quick and easy, with a real-time license validation through the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

For Parents



If your child needs a medical exemption, register now with an email address to request the exemption from your child's doctor. The request process is quick and easy and can be done from your mobile device. The site will walk you through each step of the process.

For California Schools and Child Care Facilities



California schools and licensed child care facilities can access the CAIR Medical Exemption web site once a child attending the school or child care facility has been issued a medical exemption. If your school or child care facility has received a medical exemption, you can request access by emailing medicalexemptions@cdph.ca.gov.

For State Partners

The California Department of Public Health provides CAIR Medical Exemption web site access to local health departments and California Medical Board and Osteopathic Medical Board staff. CDPH partners can request staff access to the California Immunization Registry Medical Exemption web site by emailing medicalexemptions@cdph.ca.gov.



Accessing and Registering to Use CAIR-ME

CAIR-ME home page:

- <https://cair.cdph.ca.gov/exemptions/>

Links to CAIR-ME home page on

- CAIR2 login page
- CAIRweb
- SDIR login page
- RIDE login page
- Shots for School

Accessing and Registering to Use CAIR-ME

Quick and easy registration:

- Registration for this secure site requires users to have a valid and verified email address
- User-initiated self-service registration for **parents**
- User-initiated self-service registration for **physicians**, includes an automated real-time license validation
- Invitation-based self-service registration for **other roles** (e.g., schools, childcares, LHDs).

Accessing and Registering to Use CAIR-ME

Parents can:

- Request medical exemptions
- View the status of exemptions
- Request an appeal of a revoked exemption

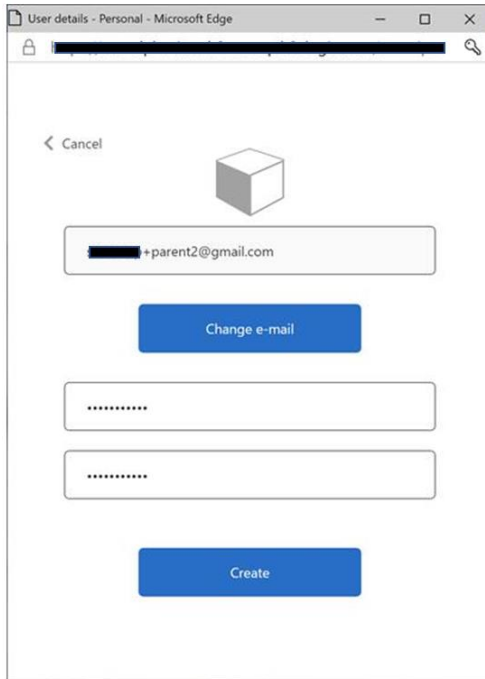
Physicians licensed in California can:

- Issue and manage exemptions for children in school or childcare

Accessing and Registering to Use CAIR-ME

- **Schools** and **Childcares** can view medical exemptions for children at their site
- **Local Health Departments** and **California Medical Boards** can view exemptions and run reports
- **CDPH staff** can review medical exemptions and run reports
- **California Health and Human Services (CHHS) staff** can review and manage appeals for revoked medical exemptions

Preview of CAIR-ME: Registration



Step 1: Create an account



Step 2: Select a user role



The entire registration process takes less than 2 minutes.

Preview of CAIR-ME: Parent Requests an ME

CAIR Medical Exemptions from Immunizations for School & Child Care

Parent/Guardian Dashboard

logged in: parent2@gmail.com

Start a New Medical Exemption Request

Before you start a medical exemption request form, make sure you have:

- Your child's full name and date of birth
- The full name and contact information for a second parent or guardian (if a second parent or guardian will be listed on the medical exemption request)
- Your child's school or child care facility's name and address.

Start a New Request

Step 1: Click the "Start a New Request" button

Add an optional second parent/guardian

TOP OF FORM

New Medical Exemption Request

Child Information

Child's First Name *

Child's Middle Name

Child's Last Name *

Child's Date of Birth *

Mother's First Name *

Parent/Guardian Information

Stephanie Parent2
1234 Main St
Apartment 11
Sacramento, 95814
(555) 555-5555 Ext: 123
parent2@gmail.com

Add Another Parent or Guardian

Step 2: Fill out the ME Request fields, attest to accuracy, authorize record release. Click submit.

BOTTOM OF FORM

School/Child Care Facility Information

County of School or Child Care Facility *

School or Child Care Facility *

Add Another School or Child Care Facility

Add up to two schools or child care facilities

Terms of Agreement

By checking the boxes below, you agree to all terms listed.

Attestation

The information submitted in this form is true, accurate, and complete.

Authorization

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, hereby authorize the physician issuing a medical exemption from required immunization to share medical records in the course of evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of my child with the board(s) that issued the medical license(s) for the physician (the Medical Board of California or the Osteopathic Medical Board of California). The disclosure of records authorized herein is required for official use, including investigation and possible administrative and/or criminal proceedings regarding any violations of the laws of the State of California. A copy of this authorization shall be as valid as the original. I understand that I have a right to receive a copy of this authorization if requested by me.

Submit

Cancel

Step 3: Get the ME number on-screen & via email (to give to the child's doctor)

Preview of CAIR-ME: Physician Completes & Issues the ME

CAIR Medical Exemptions
from Immunizations for School & Child Care

Physician's Dashboard

Issue a Medical Exemption

Start with the medical exemption (ME) request form created by a parent/guardian. To see a list of information

Search By Number or Child's Last Name *
100434

▶ Start Exemption

100434 - CHILD, Child (04/05/2020)

Step 1: Search for the ME number provided by the parent (or child's last name)

Step 2: Fill out the ME fields

- Additional School fields
- Medical Condition(s) & Exempted Vaccines
- Upload supporting documents
- Attest & Authorize checkboxes

MEDICAL CONDITIONS TAB

Child and Parent Information School/Child Care Facility Information Physician Information **Medical Conditions** Supporting Documents Attest & Authorize

Conditions

Please add medical conditions and the vaccines for

Add Condition

Add Medical Condition

Medical Basis for Exemption *
Anaphylaxis

Description of Condition
allergic reaction to vaccine when administered

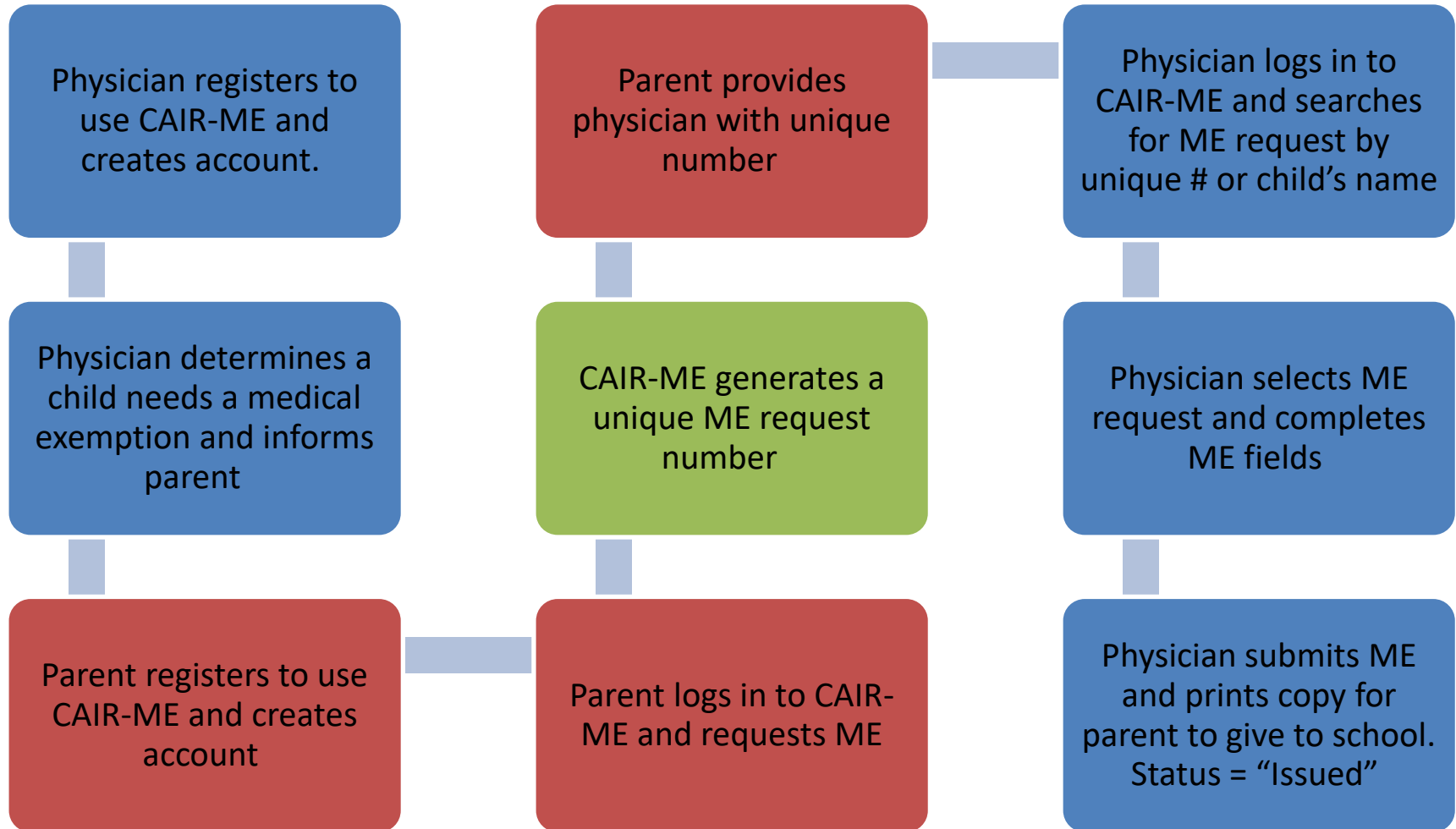
Exempted Vaccines

- DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)
- Hep B (Hepatitis B)
- Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b)
- IPV (Polio)
- MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
- Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis)
- VAR/VZV (Varicella)

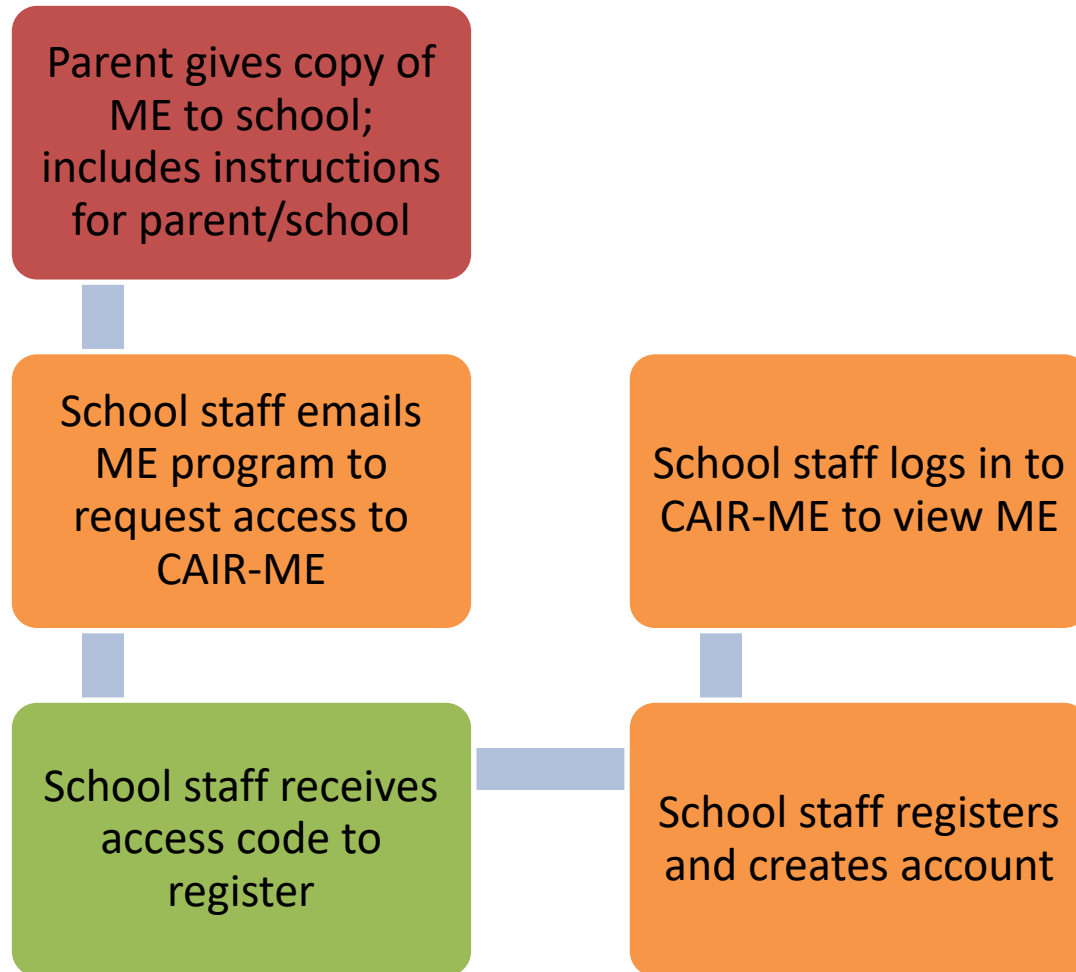
Save and Continue

Step 3: When all fields are entered, issue the medical exemption.

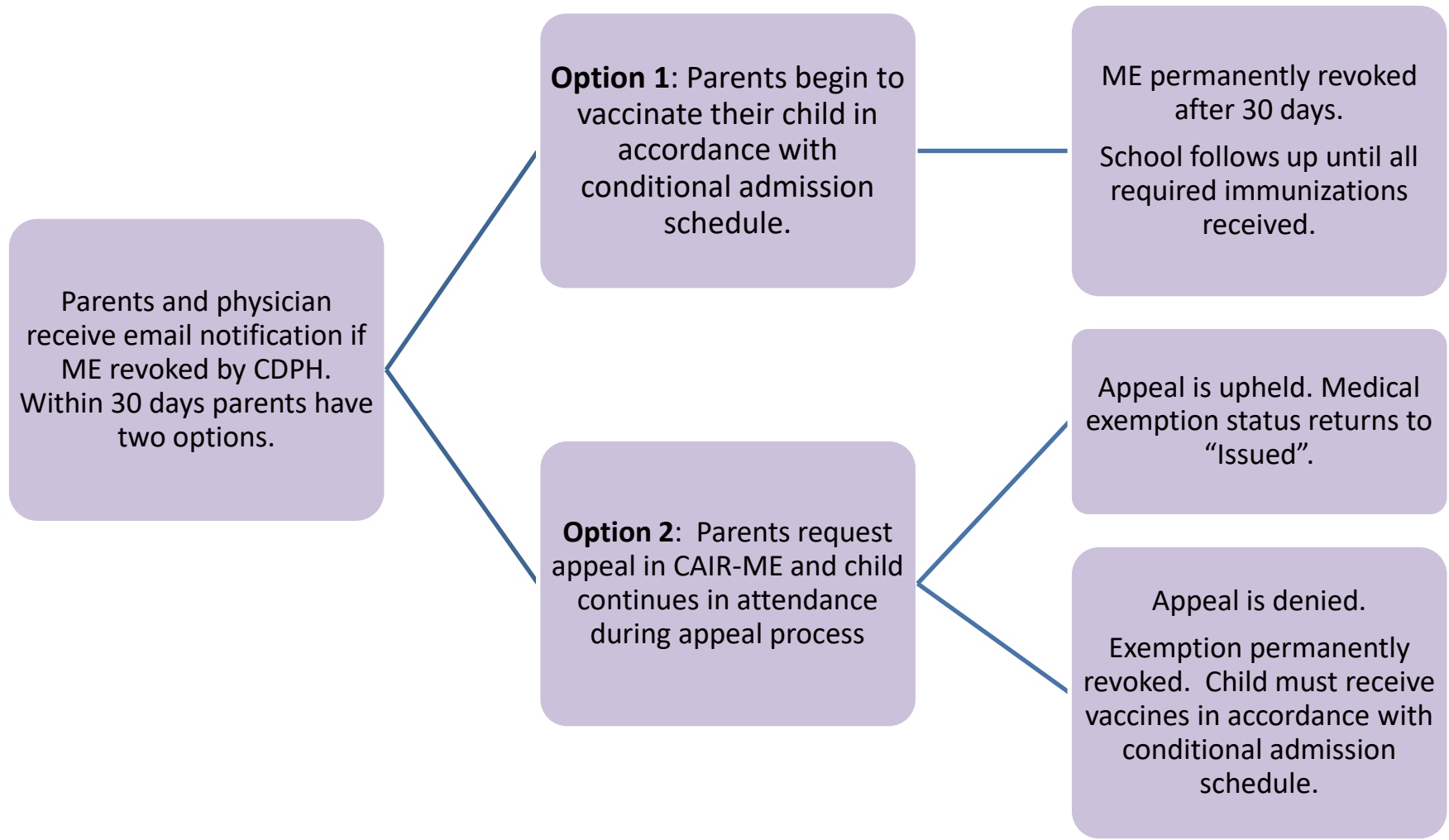
Overview of Process for Issuing a ME



Overview of Process for Filing a ME with School/Child Care Facility



Overview of Process if ME Revoked



Resources

CAIR-ME Support

- By email: medicalexemptions@cdph.ca.gov
- By phone for issues related to the website:
(844) 699-4225
- California Health and Human Services
Appeals line
- Physician webinar: January 26, 2021 12pm-
1pm
 - will be recorded and available on demand

Materials – Providers, Parents, Schools, Pre-K



Child Care

K-12

7TH Grade

College

Laws

Featured Resources

- Guide to Immunization Requirements for School Entry | Spanish
- Parents' Guide | Spanish
- Vaccine Catch-up for Age 7+ Years
- Letter to Parents: Immunizations Needed | Spanish
- No Shots? No Records? No School. Poster | Spanish



How many students in your school have required shots?

Child Care >
Kindergarten >
7th Grade >

For more information, view archived emails or send a question to info@shotsforschool.org.

News

California Immunization Registry – Medical Exemption (CAIR-ME)

School and child care staff may request access to CAIR-ME after they receive a new medical exemption issued using CAIR-ME from an incoming enrollee. (1/4/21)

COVID-19 Update:

Please continue to encourage parents to bring their children in to the doctor's office to receive shots they may have missed during the pandemic. (1/7/21)



Immunization Reporting

All reporting sites are open for school year 2020-2021.

Licensed Family Home Care, Infant, and School Age Day Care Centers are not required to report. For more guidance see [here](#).

Instructions

Changes to Requirements

Medical Exemptions

- Exemptions FAQs (updated 1/1/2021)
- Updated Forms, Guides and Materials (coming soon)

Regulations

Materials - Parents, Schools, Pre-K



- Child Care
- K-12
- 7TH Grade
- College
- Laws**



Exemptions FAQs

[Immunization Laws](#)

[Regulations FAQs \(2019 Changes\)](#)

[Exemptions FAQs](#)

[Conditional Admission FAQs](#)

[Handbook, Records, & Materials](#)

[About Immunizations FAQs](#)

ShotsForSchool > Immunization Laws > Exemptions FAQs

Medical Exemptions

1. For admissions on or after January 1, 2021, what is required for a medical exemption to a required immunization?

Starting January 1, 2021:

- Medical exemptions can only be issued through the California Immunization Registry – Medical Exemption website (CAIR-ME) by physicians licensed in California.
- Schools and child care facilities may only accept from parents new medical exemptions that are issued using CAIR-ME.

Medical Exemption FAQs

If I am already a CAIR2 user, do I need to register separately for CAIR-ME access?

Yes. CAIR-ME requires a separate registration and account.

Medical Exemption FAQs

For admissions on or after January 1, 2021, what is required for a medical exemption to a required immunization?

Starting January 1, 2021:

- Medical exemptions can only be issued through the California Immunization Registry – Medical Exemption website ([CAIR-ME](#)) by physicians licensed in California.
- Schools and child care facilities may only accept from parents new medical exemptions that are issued using CAIR-ME.

Medical Exemption FAQs

Are medical exemptions filed for children in attendance at a California child care facility or school before 2021 valid in later years?

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.

Medical Exemption FAQs

Do medical exemptions issued prior to 2021 need to be uploaded into CAIR-ME?

No. Existing MEs will remain on file at schools/child care facilities and are not required to be uploaded into CAIR-ME.

Medical Exemption FAQs

A doctor has told a child's parents that their child needs a medical exemption from a required immunization. How do parents get a medical exemption for their child?

Starting January 1, 2021, all new medical exemptions for school and child care entry must be issued through [CAIR-ME](#). Parents can create an account and log in to CAIR-ME to submit a request for a medical exemption. Next, the child's doctor can complete the medical exemption in CAIR-ME and print a copy for the parents to give to the child's school or child care facility.

Medical Exemption FAQs

When should schools and child care facilities sign up to use CAIR-ME?

Schools and child care facilities should register to use [CAIR-ME](#) once they receive a medical exemption issued using CAIR-ME for one of their enrollees. Schools and child care facilities can email medicalexemptions@cdph.ca.gov to request access to the CAIR-ME website. After registering and creating an account, schools and child care facilities will be able to see the medical exemptions in CAIR-ME that have been issued for children that attend their school or child care facility.

Medical Exemption FAQs

Who at CDPH will review my child's medical exemption in CAIR-ME?

Medical exemptions reviewed based on the specific criteria under SB 276 and SB 714 will be reviewed by clinical staff at CDPH with expertise in immunization. Only the State Public Health Officer, or a physician they designate from the CDPH's immunization program, can revoke a medical exemption.

Medical Exemption FAQs

How early may a physician issue a medical exemption in CAIR-ME before a child first enters a grade span starting in 2021?

A medical exemption may be issued in CAIR-ME no more than 12 months before a child first enters a grade span (grade spans are birth-preschool, TK/K-6th grade, and 7th-12th grade).

Your Questions



Medical exemption questions?

www.shotsforschool.org

<https://cair.cdph.ca.gov/exemption>

Email medicalexemptions@cdph.ca.gov