



Senate Bill 277

New Law Commencing January 1, 2016

SB 277 eliminates waivers from existing immunization requirements based on personal belief

Parents or guardians of students in any school or child-care facility, whether public or private, will no longer be allowed to submit a religious beliefs or personal beliefs exemption (PBE) waiver to currently-required vaccines.

Exemptions:

- **Medical Exemption**
 - A written letter from a California licensed physician attesting to the fact that vaccinating is contrary to their health due to a physical or medical condition
 - Letter must indicate which vaccines are being exempted
 - Letter must indicate whether the exemption is permanent or temporary
- **Students without any classroom-based instruction are not subject to immunization requirements in 2016 or future years**
 - Home-based private school
 - Independent study program
- **Grandfathered in, Personal Belief exemptions (PBE's)**
 - Have a personal belief exemption letter of affidavit on file prior to Jan 1, 2016
 - PBE on file at attending school will remain valid until the child reaches the next immunization checkpoint:
 - at kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) or
 - 7th grade

Maintaining documentation:

- Schools are required to keep valid waivers in children's files with pre-January 1, 2016 dates
- Maintaining a list of students with waivers on file for easy identification in case of necessary school exclusion is warranted in the event of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease

This is only for quick reference, for more detailed information, refer to California's Health and Safety Code Sections 120325, 120335, 120370, 120375 and added Section 120338