

CaWORKs IMMUNIZATION RULES

IMMUNIZATION RULES

If you are getting cash aid under the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Program, you must give the county proof that the child(ren) in your family under the age of 6 has received age-appropriate immunizations (shots). See Column 2 for a list of medically recommended immunizations and see the attached page for the recommended immunization schedules.

PROOF

If you are an applicant for CalWORKs, you must provide proof of immunization within 30 days of approval of Medi-Cal or within 45 days from date of application for CalWORKs if you are already getting Medi-Cal.

If you are a current recipient of CalWORKs, you must submit proof within 45 days after the county notifies you that proof of immunization is required. For each child under the age of 6 added to the assistance unit, you must submit proof of immunization within 30 days of the child's approval for Medi-Cal.

If you have a problem getting immunizations for your child(ren), contact your worker immediately.

EXEMPTIONS

A child(ren) is exempt from these immunization regulations if the parent or caretaker relative submits a:

- Written statement that certifies the child(ren) should not be immunized because of medical reasons. The statement must be from their doctor or a health care professional, who works under the supervision of a doctor, and must give the medical condition and if the condition is temporary or permanent.
- Sworn statement that immunizations are against his/her beliefs.

FAILURE TO COOPERATE

If you do not submit proof of immunization for all children under the age of 6 in the assistance unit, your cash aid will be lowered by an amount equal to the share of the cash aid for the parent(s) or caretaker relative(s). Once proof is submitted, the share of cash aid will be restored for the parent(s)/caretaker relative(s).

MEDICALLY RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATIONS

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, American Academy of Pediatrics, and American Academy of Family Physicians currently recommend the following immunizations for children under age 6:

- Polio
- Diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTaP or DTP)
- Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)
- Varicella Virus Vaccine* (for Chicken Pox)
- Hepatitis B
- Hemophilus influenza type b (for meningitis)

WHERE TO GET IMMUNIZATIONS

- A provider that accepts Medi-Cal
- Your assigned physician in your Medi-Cal managed care plan
- A county public health clinic
- Any other source within your county offering free or low cost immunizations
- A "Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP)" provider

HOW TO GET MORE FACTS ABOUT IMMUNIZATIONS

You can call:

- The National Immunization Information Hotline sponsored by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the American Social Health Association. Call Monday through Friday between 5 AM and 8 PM:
 - English 1-800-232-2522
 - Spanish 1-800-232-0233
- Your local health department's Immunization Service Program or the CHDP Program (depending on the county) is:

* The vaccination for chicken pox may not be available from all physicians.

If you have any questions, call your worker.