

Senate Bill 277 Frequently Asked Questions

These FAQs were last updated on 2/1/2016 (this included edits to question 2, 3, 11, 13, and 22).
This content is considered current until any future update is made.

Medical Exemptions

17. What's required for a medical exemption to a required immunization?

A parent or guardian must submit a written statement from a licensed physician (M.D. or D.O.) which states:

- That the physical condition or medical circumstances of the child are such that the required immunization(s) is not indicated.
- Which vaccines are being exempted.
- Whether the medical exemption is permanent or temporary.
- The expiration date, if the exemption is temporary.

18. May other practitioners, besides licensed physicians (M.D.s and D.O.s), provide a medical exemption to a required immunization?

No. Only a licensed Medical Doctor (MD) or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) may provide a medical exemption.

In contrast, the other categories of licensed or credentialed practitioners in California previously authorized through 2015 to sign requests for personal beliefs exemptions (e.g., Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, Naturopathic Doctor, or School Nurse) may not provide medical exemptions.

19. Is there a standardized form for medical exemptions?

No, but the documentation must include the elements described in [question 17](#).

20. Are licensed physicians required to assist in requests for medical exemptions?

A licensed physician may provide a medical exemption but is not required to do so. Parents or guardians seeking medical exemptions should check with physicians in advance to clarify their policies on medical exemptions.

For full list of FAQ's regarding Senate Bill 277, please refer to:
<http://www.shotsforschool.org/laws/sb277faq/>