

Infectious Diseases

The Superintendent and Board of Education recognize their dual responsibility to protect the health of students from risks posed by infectious diseases and to uphold the legal rights of students to a free and appropriate education.

For purposes of this policy, infectious diseases shall include all those listed by the State Department of Health Services and the County Health Department.

Prevention

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with parents/guardians and local health agencies and organizations to develop a comprehensive approach to disease prevention that promotes preventative measures and education of students and staff.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review resources available from health experts to ensure that Office of Education programs are based on the most up-to-date information.

The Office of Education's comprehensive health education program shall provide information about the prevention of infectious diseases, including the nature of bloodborne pathogens and their transmission, as well as information to help prevent the spread of contagious diseases such as pandemic influenza. Schools shall have sufficient infection prevention supplies that are easily accessible to staff.

Students and staff shall observe universal precautions in order to prevent exposure to bloodborne pathogens and to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

Students with Infectious Diseases

The exclusion of a student with an infectious disease from a program operated by the Office of Education shall be done only in accordance with law, Humboldt County Office of Education policy, and administrative regulation. Because bloodborne pathogens such as hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are not casually transmitted, the presence of infectious conditions of this type is not, in itself, sufficient reason to exclude students from attending school.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to inform the Superintendent or designee if their child has an infectious disease so that school staff may work cooperatively with the student's parent's/guardians to minimize the child's exposure to other diseases in the school setting. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that student confidentiality rights are strictly observed in accordance with law.

Legal reference**EDUCATION CODE**

48210-48216 Persons excluded

49073-49079 Privacy of pupil records

49403 Cooperation in control of communicable disease and immunization of pupils

49405 Smallpox control

49406 Examination for tuberculosis (employees)

49408 Information of use in emergencies

49602 Confidentiality of student information

51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 1 Right to Privacy

CIVIL CODE

56-56.37 Confidentiality of Medical Information Act

1798-1798.76 Information Practices Act

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

120230 Exclusion for communicable disease

120325-120380 Immunization against communicable diseases

120875-120895 AIDS information

120975-121022 Mandated blood testing and confidentiality to protect public health

121475-121520 Tuberculosis tests for pupils

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

5193 California bloodborne pathogens standard

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17

2500-2511 Communicable disease reporting requirements

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act

1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 45

164.500-164.534 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)