

**Oral Health Assessment**

Parents or guardians of a child attending school for the first time, in kindergarten or the first grade, shall provide the Superintendent/designee with proof that the child has had an oral health assessment by May 31<sup>st</sup> of the first school year. The assessment must be completed by a licensed dentist or registered dental professional. An oral health assessment completed within the 12 months prior to school entry shall meet this requirement.

Parents/guardians may obtain a waiver of this requirement if they cannot find a dental office that takes their child's insurance, cannot afford to pay for the assessment, or choose not to have their child's oral health evaluated.

Children shall not be excluded from school attendance if this requirement is not met.

Parent Notification

The Superintendent/designee shall notify parents/guardians of first-year pupils in kindergarten or first grade of the oral health assessment requirement prior to the end of the 2006-2007 school year. In subsequent years, notification shall be provided at the time of enrollment. Notification shall include the following:

- An explanation of the requirement
- Information on the importance of primary teeth
- Information on the importance of oral health to overall health and learning
- A toll-free telephone number to request an application for Healthy Families, Medi-Cal, or other government-subsidized health insurance programs
- Contact information for the county public health department
- A privacy statement pursuant to state and federal law

The notification shall also include the California Department of Education's standardized form to be used by the dental health professional performing the assessment. The form shall include a section in which the parent or guardian may indicate why an assessment cannot be completed.

Data Reporting and Collection

By December 31 of each year on forms provided by the California Department of Education, the Superintendent/designee shall compile the following data:

- The number of students subject to the oral health assessment requirement

## Students

## Board Policy 5141.33(b)

- The number of students who present proof of the assessment, and of those students the number that were found to have untreated decay
- The number of students who could not complete the assessment (1) due to financial burden, (2) due to the lack of access to licensed dentist or registered dental health professional, and (3) due to lack of parental consent for the assessment
- The number of students who did not return the assessment form or a waiver request.

Also by December 31 of each year, Humboldt County school districts shall compile the above data on forms provided by the California Department of Education and submit the completed forms to the Superintendent/designee.

The Superintendent/designee shall collect and maintain the data in a manner that will allow it to be released upon request, protecting student/parent confidentiality. Aggregate data may be released to other governmental agencies, philanthropic organizations, or other nonprofit organizations for the purpose of data analysis.

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

*49452.8 Oral Health Assessment*

#### FEDERAL LAW

*P.L. 104-191 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996*

Policy

Adopted: March 14, 2007

Reviewed: June 8, 2011

**HUMBOLDT COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

Eureka, California