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**IMMUNIZATION POLICY**

Pathways Academy Adult Education (“PAAE” or the “Charter School”) adopts this Immunization Policy and will adhere to all laws related to legally required immunizations for entering students pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 120325-120380, and Title 17, California Code of Regulations Sections 6000-6075.

**Documentary Proof**

California law requires that an immunization record be presented to PAAE staff before a child can be unconditionally enrolled in school. Each student enrolling at PAAE for the first time shall have an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider confirming that the student has received all immunizations as required by law.

A student’s immunization information shall be maintained in the student’s mandatory permanent record in accordance with PAAE’s Educational Records and Student Information Policy, and the Charter School shall file annual immunization status reports as required by the California Department of Public Health.

**Required Immunizations, Records and Reports**

Entering students need the following immunizations:

| Child’s Grade                      | Immunization  | Dosage          |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Entering Kindergarten <sup>1</sup> | Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Tetanus (DTaP)                   | Five (5) doses  |
|                                    | Polio   | Four (4) doses  |
|                                    | Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)                           | Two (2) doses   |
|                                    | Hepatitis B (Hep B)   | Three (3) doses |
|                                    | Varicella (chickenpox)                                      | Two (2) doses   |
| Entering 7 <sup>th</sup>           | Tetanus, reduced Diphtheria, and acellular Pertussis (Tdap) | One (1) dose    |

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<sup>1</sup> **NOTE:** Four doses of DTaP are allowed if one was given on or after the fourth birthday. Three doses meet the requirement if at least one dose of Tdap, DTaP, or DTP vaccine was given on or after the seventh birthday (also meets the 7th-12th grade Tdap requirement.) One or two doses of Td vaccine given on or after the seventh birthday count towards the requirement. Three doses of Polio are allowed if one was given on or after fourth birthday. MMR doses must be given on or after first birthday. Two doses of measles, two doses of mumps, and one dose of rubella vaccine meet the requirement, separately or combined. Combination vaccines (e.g., MMRV) meet the requirements for individual component vaccines.

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| Grade <sup>2</sup> |  |  |
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Any child leaving the United States for a short vacation to or long stay in any country considered by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) to have increased risk of TB exposure MUST contact the County Tuberculosis Clinic for a TB Screening upon return.

Charter School shall immediately admit a foster child, as defined in Education Code § 48853.5(a), and a homeless child, as defined in Section 11434a(2) of Title 42 of the United States Code, even if the foster or homeless child’s immunization records are not available or are missing at the time of enrollment. However, this does not alter PAAE’s obligation to obtain immunization records for foster and homeless students or to ensure the full immunization of foster and homeless students as required by law. The Charter School will provide the student’s family and/or foster family with information on vaccinations needed and work with the student’s family and/or foster family to ensure the student receives necessary vaccinations.

If Charter School discovers that an admitted student who was previously believed to be in compliance with the immunization requirements is subsequently discovered to not be in compliance with either the unconditional admission requirements or the conditional admission requirements, PAAE will notify the student’s parent/guardian of: 1) the time period within which the doses must be received, which may be no more than ten (10) school days after notification; and 2) that the student shall continue in attendance only if the parent/guardian provides documentation that the immunization requirements have been met within the time period designated by the Charter School. If the student does not provide documentation of having received all required immunizations within the time period designated by the Charter School, PAAE shall exclude this student from attendance. The student shall remain excluded from Charter School until the student is fully immunized as required by law. The student shall also be reported to the Executive Director.

**Conditional Admittance**

Students may be conditionally admitted in accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 120340 and Title 17, California Code of Regulations Section 6035 if either of the following applies:

1. The student has commenced receiving doses of all immunizations required for the student’s age or grade and is not currently due for any doses at the time of admission. Remaining dose(s) are due based on interval timing. For more information about conditional enrollment requirements please see: [laws conditional admission \(ca.gov\)](https://www.ca.gov/laws/conditional-admission).

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<sup>2</sup> **NOTE:** In order to begin seventh grade, students who had a valid personal belief exemption on file with the Charter School before January 1, 2016 must meet all requirements for children 7-17 years old (i.e., polio, MMR, chickenpox/varicella and primary series for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis), **in addition to** the seventh grade requirements for Tdap (at least one dose of pertussis-containing vaccine on or after the seventh birthday).

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2. A valid statement of Temporary Medical Exemption is submitted with immunization records for required shots not exempted. The student must complete all the required immunizations or obtain a new valid medical exemption when the temporary exemption terminates. Remaining dose(s) are due based on interval timing.

The Executive Director or designee shall notify the student's parents/guardians of the date by which the student must complete all the remaining doses. The Executive Director or designee shall review the immunization record of each student admitted conditionally at least every thirty (30) days from the date of admission until that student has received all the required immunizations or submitted an exemption. If a student conditionally admitted fails to fulfill the conditions of admission, PAAE will prohibit the student from further attendance until that student has been fully immunized as required by law. The student's parents/guardians will be provided with written notice prior to disenrollment in accordance with the Charter School's charter, applicable law and its policies.

**Exemptions from Immunization Requirements**

All students must be fully immunized in accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, the California Code of Regulations, and this Policy with the following exceptions:

1. Students who show proof of a medical exemption by a physician licensed to practice medicine in California pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 120370. Medical exemptions can be permanent or temporary based on a licensed physician's findings (M.D. or D.O.).
  - a. Commencing January 1, 2021, the California Department of Public Health standardized medical exemption form (issued electronically through the California Immunization Registry – Medical Exemption (CAIR-ME)) shall be the only documentation of a medical exemption that the Charter School shall accept.
  - b. On and after July 1, 2021, the Charter School shall not unconditionally admit or readmit, or admit or advance any student to 7th grade, unless the student has been fully immunized or files a California Department of Public Health standardized medical exemption form as required by law.
  - c. Medical exemptions issued before January 1, 2020 will continue to remain valid until the child enrolls in the next grade span, defined below, unless the exemption has been revoked.
  - d. The only existing medical exemptions that may be revoked are those that were written by a physician subject to disciplinary action by the Medical Board of California or the Osteopathic Medical Board of California.
2. Students who are enrolled in a home-based private school or independent study program and do not receive any classroom-based instruction will not be required to complete immunizations for entry to the Charter School. However, an immunization record is still required for these students because schools must maintain and report records of

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immunizations for all students. Virtual/ Online students without complete immunizations will not be allowed to attend any school-sanctioned events that require presence in school or in a public place with other students such as field trips or sports.

3. Effective January 1, 2016, parents and guardians of students in any California school are no longer allowed to submit a new personal beliefs exemption to currently required vaccines. Students who, prior to January 1, 2016, submitted a letter or affidavit to PAAE shall be allowed to continue enrollment at the Charter School without being fully immunized until the student enrolls in the next grade span pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 120335(g).
  - a. “Grade span” means each of the following:
    - i. Birth to Preschool.
    - ii. Kindergarten and grades 1 to 6, inclusive, including transitional kindergarten.
    - iii. Grades 7 to 12, inclusive.

If there is good cause to believe that a child has been exposed to a disease listed in subdivision (b) of Section 120335 and his or her documentary proof of immunization status does not show proof of immunization against that disease, that child may be temporarily excluded from the Charter School until the local health officer is satisfied that the child is no longer at risk of developing or transmitting the disease.

This Policy does not prohibit a student who qualifies for an individualized education program (“IEP”), pursuant to federal law and Education Code Section 56026, from accessing any special education and related services required by the student’s IEP. As such, students who have IEPs should continue to receive all necessary services identified in their IEP regardless of their vaccination status.