

School Immunization Administrative Rule Changes – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



Updated 9.26.2025

In spring of 2025, the Oregon Health Authority completed a cleanup and reorganization of the [school and child care immunization administrative rules](#). The Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) are the rules made to implement the Oregon Revised Statutes, the set of laws put in place by the Oregon Legislature.

What are the major changes to the rules? (answered 5.5.2025)

- **Change #1**: Exclusion Day has been moved from the 3rd Wednesday in February to the 4th Wednesday in February.
- **Change #2**: Physicians will fill out a form rather than write a letter for a medical exemption.
- **Change #3**: Children who have a history of varicella (chickenpox) disease will need health care provider verification or lab test instead of parent verification.

Questions about Change #1: Moving Exclusion Day

Why is Exclusion Day moving to the fourth Wednesday in February? (answered 5.5.2025)

Moving Exclusion Day a week later will give families one more week to get immunization records updated and give a buffer for issues with mail delivery and weather that may arise.

Questions about Change #2: Medical exemption form

If a child has a letter from a physician for a medical exemption, do they need to submit the new form? (answered 5.5.2025)

Medical exemptions on file with the school or child care before August 1, 2025, are still acceptable. Any medical exemption received after August 1, 2025, needs to be on the Oregon Medical Exemption Form.

Where can I find the Oregon Medical Exemption Form? (answered 5.5.2025, updated 7.30.2025)

The Oregon Medical Exemption Form can be found on the [Exemptions and Immunity](#) webpage.

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Who can sign the Oregon Medical Exemption Form? (answered 7.30.2025)

A physician or a representative of the local health department can sign the form.

What is a “physician” for the purposes of this administrative rule? (answered 7.30.2025)

"Physician" means a physician licensed by the Oregon Medical Board or by the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine or a physician similarly licensed by another state or country in which the physician practices or a commissioned medical officer of the Armed Forces or Public Health Service of the United States. [ORS 433.235](#).

Does that mean that a Nurse Practitioner or Physician Associate can't sign the Oregon Medical Exemption form? (answered 7.30.2025)

That is correct. Only physicians and representatives of the local health department may sign the form. The definition of “physician” is part of ORS 433.235 and cannot be changed or expanded in the administrative rules. A school may work with their local health department to complete the form if documentation is received from another health care practitioner, such as a Nurse Practitioner or Physician Associate.

Questions about Change #3: Documentation for varicella disease

If a child has a history of varicella disease (chickenpox) that was signed by a parent, do they need to resubmit documentation from a health care practitioner or a titer? (answered 5.5.2025)

Parent/guardian verified history of varicella received before August 1, 2025, will still be valid. Any documentation of history of varicella received on or after August 1, 2025, needs to be from a health care provider, lab test (titer) or from ALERT IIS. Children transferring to a new school or child care may continue to use parent/guardian verified history of varicella if it is reflected on a CIS form and signed prior to August 1, 2025.

How do I get documentation from ALERT IIS to show a history of varicella? (answered 8.20.2025)

1. Log in to ALERT IIS. If you don't have an ALERT IIS account, information about obtaining one can be found [here](#).

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2. Select the “Find Student” option from the column on the left-hand side.
3. Search for the child using their exact birth date and one additional field.
4. On the child’s Student Information page, select the “Print Confidential Record” button.

5. Verify that the history of varicella is in the Comments section of the Confidential Record.
6. Print a copy of the child’s Confidential Record for your files.

Where can someone go to get a titer? (answered 5.5.2025)

You can get a titer from a medical clinic, clinical laboratory, and even some pharmacies. If you need help finding a health care provider, 211Info is a good place to start. 211Info specializes in health and social service assistance and can be reached at help@211info.org or by dialing 2-1-1. Language interpreters are available.

Are titers for varicella covered by my insurance? (answered 5.5.2025)

This will depend on your insurance coverage. To find out if your insurance covers titers, check with your insurance provider, medical clinic, or clinical laboratory.

What if I receive a titer, lab test, or other immunization documentation that I can't understand? (answered 9.26.2025)

Your local health department can help interpret any immunization documentation that you can't understand. Information about how to contact your local health department is available [here](#).

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Additional questions

Where can I go if I have questions about the administrative rule changes? (answered 5.5.2025)

Contact oregon.imm@odhsoha.oregon.gov.

Did the names of any of the forms change? (answered 5.5.2025)

Yes, the Primary Review Summary (PRS) is now called the Immunization Report.

Are there new Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) forms for schools and child cares? (answered 5.5.2025)

Yes, the [new CIS form](#) is available. This form removes the checkbox for history of varicella disease and describes the new requirement to use a form for a medical exemption.

I have a stock of the old paper CIS forms. Can I continue to use them? (answered 5.5.2025)

Yes, schools and child care programs may continue to use the old CIS forms. However, if a parent marks the history of disease box for varicella, they should be made aware that they will need to provide documentation from a health care provider or a titer.