Nonmedical Vaccine Exemptions: Information for Parents and Families

Students in schools, childcares, preschools, and Head Start programs in Oregon need vaccines. By far, most parents vaccinate their children. But some parents claim exemptions to vaccines.

Starting March 1, 2014, parents must receive education on the benefits and risks before signing a new nonmedical exemption to required vaccines. Parents can:

1. Receive education from a healthcare provider. The provider will sign a Vaccine Education Certificate.

OR

2. View the online vaccine education module at www.healthoregon.org/vaccineexemption. Print the Vaccine Education Certificate at the end of the module.

Complete the nonmedical exemption section of the Certificate of Immunization Status form for your child. You can get the Certificate of Immunization Status at your child’s school or childcare. Turn in the completed Vaccine Education Certificate and the Certificate of Immunization Status to the school or childcare.

Click here for a graphic of the process that parents will follow to claim a nonmedical exemption. Or visit: http://bit.ly/vaccine_and_imms

Visit our website for more information about school required vaccines at: http://1.usa.gov/OregonSchool, or talk to your healthcare provider.

Things to Note

• Some healthcare providers may choose not to provide a Vaccine Education Certificate. Check with your child’s provider.

• If you have more than one child for whom you want an exemption, you need a Vaccine Education Certificate for each child.

• Keep a copy of the Vaccine Education Certificate for your own records.

• The date on the Vaccine Education Certificate and the Certificate of Immunization Status must be within 12 months of the date you enroll your child in school or childcare.

• Listing a vaccination history for your child does not affect your right to a nonmedical exemption. We encourage you to document any vaccinations your child has received so the Certificate of Immunization Status is accurate.

This document can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request this publication in another format or language, contact the Public Health Division at 971-673-1222, 971-673-0372 for TTY.