



Dear Parent or Guardian,

To ensure your child is ready for school, California law, Education Code Section 49452.8, requires that your child have an oral health assessment (dental check-up) by May 31st in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is his or her first year in public school. Assessments that have been completed within the 12 months before your child enters school also meet this requirement. The law specifies that the assessment must be done by a licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional.

Please take the attached Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment form to your child's dental appointment, or have your dental provider complete the form to verify that a check-up was completed within 12 months of your child's entrance to school. If you cannot take your child for this required assessment, please indicate the reason for this in Section 3 of the form. Completed forms must be returned to your child's school by May 31st.

If you need assistance finding a dentist to complete this requirement, you may contact the following resources listed below. You may also refer to the attached Dental Directory of East Regional Community Clinics.

1. Medi-Cal for Families/Denti-Cal: Phone #: 1-800-322-6384; or online at www.denti-cal.ca.gov
2. San Diego Kids Health Assurance Network – Phone #: (619) 542-4039
3. 2-1-1 San Diego (if you are unable to reach 2-1-1 from your cell phone please use 858-300-1211)
4. San Diego County Dental Society – Phone: (619) 275-7188; or on-line at www.sdcds.org/

Many things, including health, influence a child's progress and success in school. Cavities are preventable, but they affect more children than any other chronic disease. Children need their teeth to eat properly, talk, smile, and feel good about themselves. Tooth decay is an infection that does not heal and can be painful if left without treatment. If cavities are not treated, children may require hospitalization and their adult teeth may be permanently damaged.

California law requires schools to maintain the privacy of student's health information. Your child's identity will not be associated with any report produced as a result of this requirement. If you have questions about the Oral Health Assessment requirement, please contact the school health office.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Shultz, MSN, RN ,SNSC