

Sample Notification Letter
(to accompany Oral Health Assessment/Waiver Request Form)

(USE DISTRICT LETTERHEAD AND COMPLETE APPROPRIATE SECTIONS)

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Please be advised in order to make sure your child is ready for school, California law, *Education Code* Section 49452.8, now requires:

- That your child has an oral health assessment (**dental check-up**) by May 31 in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is his /her first year in public school.
- That dental exams must have been completed within 12 months before your child enters school to meet this requirement.
- That a licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional provides the assessment (**dental exam**).

The following steps are important to meet this requirement:

***Take the attached Oral Health Assessment/Waiver Request form to the dental office, so it can be completed at the time of your child's check-up.** If you cannot take your child for this required assessment, please indicate the reason for this in Section 3 of the form.

You can get more copies of the necessary form at your child's school or online from the California Department of Education's Web site at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/>

Return the completed form to the school.

The following resources will help you find a dentist and complete this requirement for your child:

1. Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal's toll-free number or Web site can help you to find a dentist who takes Denti-Cal: 1-800-322-6384; <http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov>
* For help enrolling your child in Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal, you may contact Marin County Dental Services at (415) 473-5450 (English/Spanish).
2. Healthy Families' toll-free number or Web site can help you to find a dentist who takes Healthy Families insurance or to find out if your child can enroll in the program: 1-800-880-5305 or <http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/hfhome.asp>
3. For additional resources that may be helpful, contact the local public health department at Children's Oral Health Project at (415) 473-4248 (English) and (415) 473-6941 (Spanish).

If you have questions about the new oral health assessment (dental exam) requirement, please contact (fill in name of district personnel or office responsible for the program, telephone number and/or e-mail address).

Sincerely,

District Superintendent

California law requires schools to maintain the privacy of students' health information. Your child's identity will not be associated with any report produced as a result of this requirement.
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