

10/11/2016

Dear Families,

On September 1, 2016, Senate Bill 792 took effect. The Bill "prohibits a person being employed, or volunteering at a child care center, or a family daycare home if he or she is not immunized against influenza, pertussis, and measles." Senate Bill 792 also defines "volunteer" as "any non-employee that provides <u>care and supervision</u> to children in care." RCC Child Development Center interpreted volunteers as any person who provides <u>care and supervision</u> such as work experience students, nursing students and intern students. These volunteers must provide proof of the required immunizations before he or she may enter the center.

Recently, there has been further clarification from the Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division (DSSCCLD) regarding persons who are considered volunteers. Parents who plan to attend birthday parties, remain on the playground during drop-off and pick-up, photographers, and all guest speakers have been defined as volunteers. Licensing's strict interpretation of the law requires RCC to comply so we do not receive a violation that would ultimately affect our ability to serve families.

We understand this is an inconvenience but in order to keep our children safe and to be in compliance with SB 792 and DSSCCL, we are asking all family members that wish to participate in classroom activities, or who like to stay during drop-off and pick up on the playground to provide the center with proof of his or her immunizations, specifically dTap, 2 MMR's, and the influenza vaccine. Please understand that if families choose not to provide the center with his or her immunization records, he or she will not be allowed to stay and interact with other children at the center either in the classroom or on the playground during drop-off/pick-up time, attend celebrations or events in his or her child's classroom, or volunteer at the center until proof of the required immunizations are on file.

I really do not think the legislatures thought through this statute, and I am personally not happy that I have been placed in the position of excluding families when our philosophy is to include and welcome families to participate at our center. If you would like to look up SB 792 you can google SB 792 or below is the link. https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB792

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself and/or someone in the front office.

Thank you for your continued support!

Toni Rangel RCC Child Development Center Manager