Justification

To ensure consistent insurance coverage of and access to safe and effective vaccines, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is authorized to issue immunization recommendations, taking into consideration guidance from medical and scientific organizations. The enabling statute, California Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 120164, was passed into law by Assembly Bill 144 (2025) and took effect immediately. Among other provisions, HSC section 120164 permits CDPH to publish its current immunization recommendations, and any updates, modifications, or supplements, with exemption from the APA rulemaking process. HSC section 120164 is included here in the footnote for reference.[1]

The Division of Communicable Disease Control (DCDC) within the Center for Infectious Diseases (CID) of CDPH, reviewed the appropriate scientific literature and the recommendations of relevant professional and medical organizations and determined that the recommended vaccines for children, adolescents, and adults should be the following:

[1] ***SEC. 26.***
Section 120164 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:
120164.
(a) Consistent with subdivision (b), the list of immunizations, items, and services that were recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and that were in effect on January 1, 2025, shall serve as the baseline recommendations for purposes of this section.
(b) The State Department of Public Health may modify or supplement the baseline recommendations described in subdivision (a). In making modifications or supplements, the department shall take into consideration guidance and recommendations from additional medical and scientific organizations, including, but not limited to, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the American Academy of Family Physicians.
(c) In modifying or supplementing the baseline recommendations, the department may also incorporate subsequent evidence-based recommendations issued by the USPSTF, ACIP, or HRSA, to the extent the department determines those recommendations are consistent with the purposes of this section and promote public health.
(d) Publishing the baseline recommendations or any modification or supplement adopted pursuant to this section shall be exempt from the administrative regulation and rulemaking requirements of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.
(e) The department shall publish the recommendations of immunizations, items, and services, and publish any updates, modifications, or supplements adopted pursuant to this section. Any modification or supplement shall be deemed effective on the date of publication. The recommendations and schedules shall be filed with the Secretary of State and published in the California Code of Regulations.

- 2025–26 Respiratory Vaccine Recommendations (PDF) (cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/IMM-1481.pdf)

- American Academy of Pediatrics immunization schedule (PDF) (downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/AAP-Immunization-Schedule.pdf)

- American Academy of Family Physicians immunization schedule (PDF) (aafp.org/dam/AAFP/documents/patient_care/immunizations/2025%20adult%20Schedule.pdf)