

Dear Parents and Guardians,

To make sure your child is ready for school, California law, *Education Code Section 49452.8*, now requires that your child have an oral health assessment (dental check-up) by May 31 in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is his or her first year in public school. Assessments that have happened 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.

To complete the Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA), look out for the Oral Health Assessment/Waiver Request form that will be distributed when you register your child for school or download the form in your preferred language at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/oralhealth.asp>. Take this form to your dental office, as it will need to be completed by the dentist during 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. 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. **Don't forget to complete the KOHA by May 31** and give your child's school the completed form!

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

1. Medi-Cal Dental's toll-free number or Web site can help you to find a dentist who takes Medi-Cal Dental: 1-800-322-6384; <https://dental.dhcs.ca.gov/>.
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.benefitscal.com/>.
3. For additional resources that may be helpful, visit the Placer County Oral Health Program website at <https://www.placer.ca.gov/3030/Oral-Health-Program>.

Thank you for your efforts in improving the health of Placer County children!

Sincerely,

Tamren Johnk, MPH, CHES
Health Education Program Coordinator II
Health and Human Services | Public Health
(530) 889-7193 | placer.ca.gov