

Executive Office

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Order Waiving Restrictions On Healthcare Students Administering COVID-19 Vaccines In Association With State or Local Vaccination Efforts

On March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed a [State of Emergency](#) to exist in California as a result of the impacts of COVID-19 to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare to respond to an increasing number of individuals requiring medical care and hospitalization as a result of a broader spread of COVID-19.

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-39-20, during the State of Emergency, the Director of the California Department of Consumer Affairs may waive any professional licensing requirements and amend scopes of practice in Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code (the Code), and any accompanying regulations.

On March 11, 2021, the Acting Secretary of the federal Department of Health and Human Services issued the [Seventh Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19](#) (the Declaration). In relevant part, the Declaration designated categories of students in a healthcare profession training program to administer COVID-19 vaccines, including any medical, nursing, pharmacist, midwife, physician assistant, respiratory care practitioner, dentist, podiatry, optometry, and veterinarian students, subject to specified conditions.

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order, and consistent with the Declaration, the Director waives any statutory or regulatory provision in Division 2 of the Code and the implementing regulations, to the extent that such provision prohibits any medical, nursing, pharmacist, midwife, physician assistant, respiratory care practitioner, dentist, podiatry, optometry, or veterinarian student from administering COVID-19 vaccines, subject to the following conditions:

- The student administers vaccines in association with a State, local, or institutional COVID-19 vaccination effort;
- The student is appropriately trained in administering vaccines, as determined by the student's school or training program;
- When administering vaccines, the student is supervised by a currently-practicing healthcare professional who is experienced in administering intramuscular injections;

- The student successfully completes the required COVID-19 training programs prescribed by the California Department of Public Health at the following website:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/COVIDTraining-Non-Traditional.aspx>;
- The student has documentation of an observation period by a currently-practicing healthcare professional experienced in administering intramuscular injections, and for whom administering vaccinations is in their ordinary scope of practice, who confirms competency of the student in administration of the subject COVID-19 vaccines;
- The student has a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation;
- The student's supervisor complies with all applicable federal and state recordkeeping and reporting requirements, including providing documentation to the patient's primary care provider, as applicable, and entering information in the appropriate immunization information system designated by the immunization branch of the State Department of Public Health;
- The student complies with any applicable requirements (or conditions of use) as set forth in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 vaccination provider agreement;
- The subject vaccine is authorized, approved, or licensed by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and,
- The subject vaccine is administered in accordance with any applicable FDA emergency use authorization or license.

Students in a healthcare training program acting within the scope of this Order may administer any COVID-19 vaccines that are approved or authorized by the FDA, as specified.

This waiver is effective immediately but may be amended as circumstances require.

Dated: March 30, 2021

Signature on File

Kimberly Kirchmeyer
Director