



Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child is attending public school for the first time and beginning a learning adventure that will last a lifetime!

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.

What do I need to do to meet this requirement? Take the attached Oral health Assessment/Waiver Request form to the dental office, as it will be needed for 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. Return the form to your child's school.

How do I find a dentist? The following resource will help you find a dentist and complete this requirement for your child:

1. List of Dentists: <http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov/provreferral/Fresno.pdf>

Clovis Unified is committed to promoting the health and wellness of its students. Remember, many things influence a child's progress and success in school, including dental health.

- Take your child to the dentist twice a year.
- Choose healthy foods for the entire family. Fresh foods are usually the healthiest foods.
- Brush teeth at least twice a day with toothpaste that contains fluoride.
- Limit or avoid some foods. Sugary foods, juices, candy (especially sticky gummy candy, gummy vitamins, or fruit leather or "roll-ups") can erode enamel and cause cavities. If your kids eat these foods, have them rinse their mouth or brush their teeth after eating to wash away the sugar. The same goes for taking sweetened liquid medicines: always have kids rinse or brush afterward.

If you have questions about the oral health assessment requirement, please contact your child's School Nurse or Clovis Unified School District Department of Nursing Services.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Prandini, RN, MSN, CPNP-PC
Director CUSD Nursing Services