

## **GOLDEN STATE COLLEGE OF COURT REPORTING & CAPTIONING**

### ***VACCINATION POLICY***

#### **Golden State College does not require vaccinations prior to enrolling into its program.**

Vaccination is one of the most cost-effective methods available to prevent infectious diseases. Golden State College highly recommends that individuals be immunized, if they are not already.

Vaccine requirements for the State of California dictate that individuals be immunized by the time they reach grade 12 with vaccines against

- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTap)
- Hepatitis B
- Hib
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
- Polio
- Varicella

Other common vaccines available, but not required by the State of California are:

- Hepatitis A
- Meningococcal
- Pneumococcal
- Influenza

#### **What Is A Vaccine?**

Vaccines are biologics - their basic components begin as living material - that introduce "weakened or killed disease-causing bacteria, viruses, their components" (such as proteins, recombinant proteins, or polysaccharides) or toxoids into a person or animal to stimulate an immune reaction that the body will remember if exposed to the same pathogen in the future. Most vaccines are given by injection.

Although many people use the words *vaccination*, *immunization*, and *inoculation* interchangeably, the terms are not technically synonymous. *Vaccination* is "the physical act of administering any vaccine..." and *immunization* is a "more inclusive term denoting the process of inducing or providing immunity artificially by administering an immunobiologic." *Inoculation* also involves introducing a microorganism but not necessarily intentionally; the term *vaccination* was coined to mean intentional inoculation with the vaccinia virus that causes cowpox to provoke an immune response to protect against the smallpox virus.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) licenses 46 vaccines, covering 20 diseases, now available for public use in the United States. Dozens more are in active development; research teams

worldwide are working to develop vaccines against tuberculosis, malaria, HIV/AIDS, Alzheimer's disease, some cancers, and other diseases of which most Americans have never heard. The National Immunization Program, part of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), issues recommended immunization schedules for children, adolescents, and adults in the United States.

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CRS Report for Congress: Vaccine Policy Issues

For more information, refer to [www.immunizationinfo.org/vaccines](http://www.immunizationinfo.org/vaccines) or [www.fas.org](http://www.fas.org)