

Health Services Department Public Health Division PRESS RELEASE

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Tdap Deadline Looms

Sutter Creek, Ca. Numerous local students are currently without Tdap booster documentation. As the school year is starting in less than two weeks, it is increasingly important to remind parents of the new state Tdap (whooping cough) law requiring a booster prior to school attendance this year.

The new law requires all 7-12 graders to be immunized before they start school this fall. State lawmakers passed AB 354 after California experienced the highest number of whooping cough cases since 1947. Last year, 10 infants died from the disease and more than 9,100 people were infected in the state. Parents should be aware that the protection from childhood immunization to pertussis wears off, and adolescents may be at risk for infection without a booster.

The student's primary health care provider, or "medical home," is the best resource to receive and document this vaccine. Other resources for the community include neighboring county health departments and some local pharmacies.

On August 15th, 2011 Public Health is offering a Tdap clinic from 3 pm to 7 pm at the Health and Human Services Building in Sutter Creek. The cost will be \$10 per child. This \$10 fee will cover all vaccinations needed. Other vaccinations offered at the August 15th clinic will be: varicella, hepatitis A, meningococcal and HPV.

For more information on the new law or to download the verification form, please visit the Amador County Unified School District website: http://www.amadorcoe.org/parent.htm. For Public Health immunization clinic information call 223-6407.

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