

HOW TO OBTAIN MEDICARE IMMUNISATION RECORDS

On 1 July 2019, changes to the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011* (the Act) came into effect, allowing the Chief Public Health Officer to exclude susceptible children from early childhood services in the event of an outbreak or possible outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease.

From **1 January 2020**, the Act requires early childhood services to keep a copy of all immunisation records provided for each child enrolled in or attending that service and for the period of the child's enrolment.

This is because a rapid response is required to prevent the spread of a vaccine preventable disease in an early childhood service, which is why services need to have current immunisation records on site and able to be provided to the Chief Public Health Officer within 24 hours when requested. These are South Australian legislation changes and are not related to the Commonwealth government *No Jab No Pay* legislation.

How do I obtain an immunisation history statement?

Online

You can access and download your immunisation history statement straight away using either:

- > Your **Medicare online account** through myGov
- > **Express Plus Medicare** mobile app (if already set up with MyGov)

Please use the following instructions on how to do this.

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/online-help/medicare/getting-your-immunisation-history-statement-using-your-medicare-online-account>

Phone

You may also call the **Australian Immunisation Register** general enquiries line on **1800 653 809** and request a copy of your child's immunisation history statement to be posted to you.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who must supply immunisation records?

Parents or legal guardians must supply approved immunisation records to the early childhood service caring for their child.

What is an approved immunisation record?

For most children, an approved immunisation record will be an extract (downloaded copy) from the Australian Immunisation Register called an immunisation history statement. An immunisation history statement is a record of immunisations given and recorded in the Australian Immunisation Register, as well as any approved exemptions. It contains a statement as to whether or not your child is up-to-date with their immunisations.

Is an immunisation record in my child's Blue Book or letter from my doctor acceptable?

No. Only an immunisation history statement from the Australian Immunisation Register, or a certificate or document approved by the Chief Public Health Officer, is acceptable.

What if my child was born overseas and I only have an overseas record – how do I get immunisation records accepted?

Overseas immunisation records will **not be** accepted by the early childhood service as they are not an approved record. Immunisation records from overseas must be entered onto the Australian Immunisation Register by your doctor/immunisation provider. Once your child's immunisation records have been updated on the Australian Immunisation Register, you can access an immunisation history statement.

What is a current immunisation record?

An immunisation record provided to the early childhood service must be downloaded from the Australian Immunisation Register no earlier than one month prior to a child's enrolment or within the specified age ranges.

More information

Australian Immunisation Register general enquiries line - 1800 653 809

> www.humanservices.gov.au

> www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/immunisation