

# WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT THE HEALTHY SCHOOLS ACT

The California Healthy Schools Act (HSA) applies to all K–12 schools as well as public and private child care centers, but not to family child care homes. HSA requires certain practices of schools and child care centers related to pesticides and pest management. While HSA does not apply to family child care homes, some of the practices and requirements can be helpful to implement integrated pest management (IPM) programs in family child care homes.

## Best practices for family child care homes from HSA:

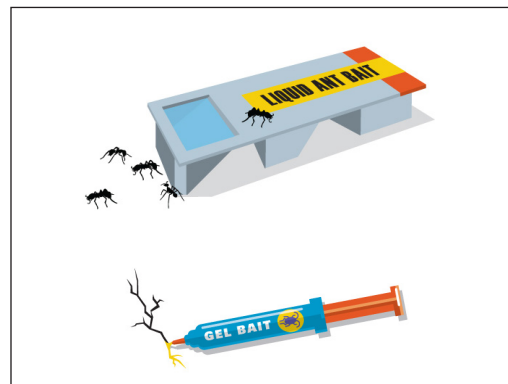
- ▶ Have an IPM policy (see *Integrated Pest Management: Policy for Family Child Care Homes* handout on the reverse side).
- ▶ Keep records of any pesticide applications.
- ▶ Notify parents of pest infestations requiring the use of pesticides.
- ▶ Use pesticides that are not regulated (“exempt”) under HSA, rather than sprays or foggers.
- ▶ Take free DPR Online HSA Training Courses designed for child care providers, teachers, custodians, and food service workers: [apps.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolipm/training/main.cfm](http://apps.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolipm/training/main.cfm).



Foggers and sprays are regulated under HSA.

## Which pesticides are *not* regulated under HSA?

HSA does not require posting, notification, recordkeeping, or reporting for some less hazardous pesticide products. These HSA-exempt products are safer than pesticide products like sprays and foggers. All pesticide products, including HSA-exempt products, should still be used as a last resort.



HSA-exempt products include:

- ▶ Self-contained baits and traps.
- ▶ Gels or pastes used for crack-and-crevice treatments.
- ▶ Antimicrobials (products that kill microorganisms such as sanitizers and disinfectants).
- ▶ “Minimum risk pesticides,” or products exempt from registration by the U.S. EPA.

## RESOURCES

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, List of Minimum Risk Pesticides [www2.epa.gov/minimum-risk-pesticides/active-ingredients-allowed-minimum-risk-pesticide-products](http://www2.epa.gov/minimum-risk-pesticides/active-ingredients-allowed-minimum-risk-pesticide-products)
- California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Healthy Schools Act [http://apps.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolipm/school\\_ipm\\_law/main.cfm](http://apps.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolipm/school_ipm_law/main.cfm)
- California Childcare Health Program, The Healthy Schools Act [cchp.ucsf.edu/HSA-CUR](http://cchp.ucsf.edu/HSA-CUR)