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CONCUSSIONS IN YOUTH ATHLETES - CALIFORNIA

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California

The California law is found under the California Education Code (Cal. Educ. Code Section 35179.1 (c) (6), known as the 1998 California High School Coaching Education and Training Program) requires that coaches be certified in CPR and first aid and have a basic understanding of the signs and symptoms of concussions and the appropriate response to concussions. The California law can be found at sections 38131(6) and 49475 of the Education Code. (Cal. Educ. Code § 38131(6)). §674539(b) (Cal. Educ. Code) requires adoption and implementation of guidelines to prevent, assess, and treat sports-related concussions.

The California law provides that if a school district, charter school or private school offers an athletic program, any athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion must be removed immediately from the activity for the rest of the day. The student is not permitted to return to activity until cleared in writing by a health care professional. Parents/guardians of any student wishing to participate in an athletic activity are required to annually sign a concussion information sheet before the student can participate. An athletic program is required to adopt and implement guidelines to prevent, assess and treat sports-related concussions. This law also applies to recreational activities taking place on school owned grounds which are not sponsored or part of school run activities.

The official versions of sections 38131(6), 35179.1, 49475, and 67453 are currently available online at:

[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&ionNum=38131.](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&ionNum=38131)
[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&ionNum=35179.1.](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&ionNum=35179.1)
[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&ionNum=49475.](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&ionNum=49475)
[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&ionNum=67453.](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&ionNum=67453)