



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF
EDUCATION

Sept. 30, 2022

Dear Pediatric Colleagues:

As we start a new school year, I am grateful to each of you for your tireless work to ensure our students receive their well-child visits and have all of their required pediatric immunizations. One of the most important aspects of keeping students safe and healthy in school is through immunizations. With your help, the District has made a concerted and coordinated effort across our city to ensure families have access to vaccinations and know about our immunization enforcement policy, as required by District law, for all students in DC schools.

As you may have heard, last month the Deputy Mayor for Education released updated guidance regarding the enforcement timeline of the Immunization Attendance Policy for routine pediatric immunizations and the COVID-19 vaccine during the 2022-23 school year. To reduce the number of students who could be excluded from school at any one time, and to align schools and local education agencies (LEAs) to one unified notification and exclusion timeline, schools in the District are encouraged to implement staggered enforcement based on grade band. Required immunizations include all routine pediatric immunizations for all students and, for all students 12 and older, the COVID-19 vaccine. Additional information is available on the [District of Columbia Immunization Attendance Policy](#) page of the OSSE website.

		Official Notice Sent to Non-Compliant Students	First Date of Exclusion of Non-Compliant Students
Routine Pediatric Immunizations	Pre-K3 through Grade 5	Sept. 7, 2022	Oct. 11, 2022
	Grades 6-12	Oct. 3, 2022	Nov. 4, 2022
COVID-19 Vaccination (For Students Age 12 and Older)		Nov. 21, 2022	Jan. 3, 2023

While these updated timelines allow students to attend school for a longer amount of time before being excluded for immunization non-compliance, our goal remains that all students receive their vaccinations as soon as possible and that there are minimal interruptions to school attendance. I ask for your continued support with working with families to get their students immunized before these updated enforcement timelines.

Thank you for all you are doing for our students and families.

Sincerely,

Heidi Schumacher, MD FAAP

Pronouns: she/her/hers

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