

January 29, 2021

Dear Colorado Education Leaders,

The State is making available vaccines for P-12 school and child care staff at licensed providers starting on February 8, 2021. This includes all student-facing staff in school districts, Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), charter schools, private schools, and licensed child care providers. Student-facing staff includes child care workers, teachers (full-time, substitutes, and student teachers), school nurses (if not already vaccinated), classroom paraprofessionals, school bus drivers, school cafeteria food service staff, custodial staff, school counselors, school administrators, administrative staff, and staff providing safety and other support services offered inside the school or child care program.

Many school districts, public and private schools, child care providers, and BOCES have already begun planning with local health care partners, including hospital systems, clinics, and local public health agencies, to schedule vaccinations for school and child care staff no earlier than February 8.

For instance, many metro school districts have provided lists of school district employees who would like to receive a vaccination to health care providers, like UCHealth or Centura. In these cases, school staff will hear directly from hospital systems regarding when it is their time to be vaccinated.

In some areas, including in many rural communities, school districts, schools, and child care providers are working with local public health agencies or other healthcare partners to schedule clinics at their school sites or at locations around the community. Some local public health agencies may work with multiple school districts, schools, or providers, to schedule vaccination clinics across school sites. The State encourages school districts to include school district-authorized charter schools in their planning. Charter School Institute (CSI) authorized charter schools may work through CSI or contact public health or health care partners on their own.

For school districts, schools, BOCES, and child care providers that have not yet made a plan to vaccinate staff, here are a few steps that you can take to help make a plan:

- 1) Contact your local public health agency or a local healthcare provider.
- 2) Create a list of all eligible student-facing staff within your district, charter schools, private schools, or child care. Coordination across entities is recommended.
- 3) Contact local health providers from this <u>list</u> and may be interested in partnering to provide vaccinations.
- 4) To request assistance connecting with a COVID-19 vaccine provider and/or making a COVID-19 vaccination plan, please complete this form.

CDPHE and CDE are available to help school districts, schools and child care centers that are struggling to find partners or make a plan to provide vaccinations for school staff.

CDHS will be working with licensed child care providers and other partners to get information out to child care providers as soon as possible regarding vaccinations.

School districts and schools may consider partnering with child care providers and local non-public schools in the area to help ensure other providers can leverage school district and school partnerships to receive vaccinations.

Vaccinated personnel must continue to follow all quarantine protocols until two full weeks after receiving the second vaccine.

Sincerely,

Jared Polis Governor