



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education  
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 307 | Washington, DC 20004

November 1, 2021

Dear LEA Leaders:

Thank you for your diligent efforts to communicate to families about routine immunizations for students. We know how critically important vaccinations are to protecting the health and safety of our school communities. I am writing today with new guidance regarding the enforcement of the [Immunization Attendance Policy](#) for routine pediatric immunizations during the 2021-22 school year. We are offering an extended implementation window to provide schools and families with more time to schedule doctor's appointments and come into compliance before facing a consequence of exclusion from school.

The pandemic has created barriers for many families in completing routine pediatric wellness appointments. To allow families more time to make their wellness appointments with their child's doctor and receive necessary immunizations for their age, LEAs are not required at this time to implement the removal of students from instruction due to immunization non-compliance. LEAs that have already excluded students consistent with the Immunization Attendance Policy have the discretion on how to proceed with impacted families.

In the meantime, we urge you to continue to work your school health teams to reach out to your families who are missing their routine vaccinations and connect them with resources that will ensure their children fulfill this important requirement and submit the necessary immunization documentation to school.

If you have any questions, please submit them to [OSSE.HealthandSafety@dc.gov](mailto:OSSE.HealthandSafety@dc.gov).

Thank you for all you are doing for our students.

Sincerely,

Paul Kihn  
Deputy Mayor for Education