



Nov. 1, 2022

Dear LEA Leaders,

This communication includes several important announcements regarding No Shots No School, including:

- Reminder about enforcement notices for middle and high school students
- Announcing a four-week (instead of two-week) grace period for middle and high school students who meet eligibility criteria;
- Guidance on transportation for students with disabilities who are removed from school due to immunization noncompliance; and
- Reminders on available resources, the availability of immunization data entry support, Children’s School Services (CSS) nurse manager contact information and locations for students to secure vaccines.

[REMINDER] Enforcement Notices for Middle and High School Students

The citywide immunization noncompliance notification date for middle and high students (grades 6-12), [as recommended by the Deputy Mayor for Education](#), was Oct. 3, 2022. If you have not already, all charter LEAs should ensure that schools notify noncompliant middle and high school students as soon as possible. For students notified on Oct. 3, the first day that they may be excluded from school due to a failure to comply with immunization requirements is Nov. 4, 2022. This timeline already includes the 20-school day period provided for by DC law during which students can attend without immunization certification. If your LEA’s calendar includes any breaks between Oct. 3 and Nov. 4 or if your LEA has not yet sent notification letters, you must ensure that students are provided 20 school days between the initial notification date and the date of exclusion. For more information on initial notifications, see Step 4 of the [Immunization Attendance Policy](#).

[UPDATE] Four-week Grace Period for Middle and High School Students who Meet Established Criteria

As [shared with you previously](#), a two-week grace period was provided to all noncompliant elementary school students who either had upcoming appointments or claimed that documentation of compliance had already been submitted. To provide additional time for engagement with youth and their families, as well as record review and entry in our larger secondary schools, **this communication increases this grace period for middle and high school students from two weeks to four weeks**. Therefore, noncompliant middle and high school students who were sent initial notifications on Oct. 3, 2022 are eligible for a grace period until Dec. 2, 2022. The first date of exclusion for these students would be Dec. 5, 2022.

This grace period should apply to all middle and high school students who submit proof of an immunization appointment that will take place within four weeks of the date of exclusion or who claim they have already submitted the information demonstrating that the student is in compliance with the District’s immunization requirements. For additional information on operationalizing the grace periods, see the [Oct. 3 letter to LEA leaders](#).

If you have questions about enforcement notices for middle and high school students, please submit them to OSSE.HealthandSafety@dc.gov.

[UPDATE] Transportation for Students with Disabilities Who Are Removed from School Due to Immunization Noncompliance

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) has released updated guidance on the process for cancelling transportation services for students with disabilities who are receiving transportation services as a related service and who are removed from school due to immunization non-compliance. View the [guidance](#) on the OSSE website. For any questions, LEAs may reach out to the OSSE support team via email at DOT.ParentCallCenter@dc.gov.

[REMINDER] Immunization Data Entry Support

DC Health has hired staff to assist schools with immunization data entry. Schools that are interested in receiving this support should send an email to shs.program@dc.gov for data entry support. In the body of your email, please indicate if your school does, or does not, participate in the School Health Services Program with Children's School Services.

[REMINDER] Children's School Services (CSS) Support

Schools that have questions or need additional support regarding their assigned CSS nurse(s) are encouraged to contact CSS' nurse manager team for assistance.

[REMINDER] Expanded Vaccine Access

The best place for families to access immunizations is at their primary medical provider as part of their comprehensive well-child care. If a family does not have a health care provider or they are having difficulty securing an appointment, they may select one from a [list of pediatric clinic locations](#) in every ward. Additionally, **DC Health has partnered with area health providers to expand access to pediatric vaccination services**, including mass vaccination clinics, specialty clinics, and COVID Centers. For more information, including a calendar of expanded vaccine opportunities, please visit and direct families to: PedsVax.dc.gov. **Schools should support families in locating and securing vaccine appointments in order to make use of the four-week grace period.**

The OSSE Health and Wellness team is available via email at OSSE.HealthandSafety@dc.gov.

We appreciate your continued hard work to support all students to secure necessary vaccines so that they may remain healthy and in school!

Best,
Christina Grant, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education