COLORADO
Department of Public Health & Environment

Advancing Colorado's health and protecting the places we live, learn, work, and play

Dear parents/guardians of students in Colorado child cares, preschools and Head Start programs for the 2021-22 school year:

We know you're thinking of all the things you need to do to make sure your student is ready for school. Getting vaccinated is an important part of their school readiness and keeps children from catching and spreading diseases that can make them sick. We wish you and your student a healthy school year!

Required and recommended vaccines

- Colorado law requires students who attend a licensed child care, preschool, or Head Start program to be vaccinated against many of the diseases vaccines can prevent, unless an exemption is filed. For more information, visit cdphe.colorado.gov/schoolrequiredvaccines. Your student must be vaccinated against:
  - Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTaP, DTP)
  - Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
  - Hepatitis B (HepB)
  - Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR)
  - Polio (IPV)
  - Pneumococcal (PCV13)
  - Varicella (chickenpox)

- Colorado follows recommendations set by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. You can view the recommended vaccine schedule for children 0 - 6 years of age at cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/downloads/parent-ver-sch-0-6yrs.pdf.
- Vaccines are recommended for rotavirus, hepatitis A, and influenza, but are not required.

Exclusion from school

- Your student may be excluded from school if your school does not have an up-to-date vaccine record, certificate of exemption, or in-process plan for your student on file.
- If someone gets sick with a vaccine-preventable disease or there is an outbreak at your student's school and your student has not received the vaccine for that disease, they may be excluded from school activities. That could mean lost learning time for them and lost work and wages for you. For example, if your student has not received a MMR vaccine, they may be excluded from school for 21 days after someone gets sick with measles.

Have questions?

- You may want to talk to a healthcare provider licensed to give vaccines or your local public health agency about which vaccines your student needs or if you have questions. You can read about the safety and importance of vaccines at SpreadTheVaxFacts.com, ImmunizeForGood.com, and cdphe.colorado.gov/immunization-education.

Paying for vaccinations

- If you need help finding free or low-cost vaccines and providers who give them, go to COVax4Kids.org, contact your local public health agency, or call the state health department's Family Health Line at 1-303-692-2229 or 1-800-688-7777. You can find your local public health agency at cdphe.colorado.gov/find-your-local-public-health-agency.

Vaccination records

- Please take your student's updated vaccine record to school every time they receive a vaccine.
- Need to find your student's vaccine record? It may be available from the Colorado Immunization Information System. Visit COVaxRecords.org for more information.

Exemptions

- If your student cannot get vaccines because of medical reasons, you must submit a *Certificate of Medical Exemption* to your school, signed by a health care provider licensed to give vaccines. You only need to submit this certificate once, unless your student's information or school changes. You can get the certificate at cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions.
- If you choose not to have your student vaccinated according to the current recommended schedule because

of personal belief or religious reasons, you must submit a *Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption* to your school. Nonmedical exemptions must be submitted at ages 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 12 months and 18 months. There are two ways to file a nonmedical exemption.

- File the *Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption* WITH a signature from an immunizing provider, OR
- File the *Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption* received upon the completion of our online education module.

Downloadable certificates and our online education module are available at cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions.

How's your school doing on vaccinations?

- Some parents, especially those with students who have weakened immune systems, may want to know which child cares, preschools, and Head Start programs have the highest percent of vaccinated students. Schools must report immunization and exemption numbers (but not student names or birth dates) to the state health department annually. Schools do not control their specific immunization and exemption rates or establish the Vaccinated Children Standard described in C.R.S. 25-4-911. Schools must include their MMR immunization and exemption rates from the most recently completed school year in this letter. Schools may choose to also include immunization and exemption rates for other school-required vaccines. Additional immunization and exemption rates can be found at COVaxRates.org.

Child Care/Preschool/Head Start Name	2019-2020 MMR Immunization Rate REQUIRED IN LETTER	2019-2020 MMR Exemption Rate REQUIRED IN LETTER
CSU Early Childhood Center	100	0
Schools may also include the rates for the school-required vaccines shown below in this annual letter to parents/guardians		
Vaccinated Children Standard 95% Immunization Rate for All School-Required Vaccines	2019-2020 DTaP Immunization Rate	2019-2020 DTaP Exemption Rate
	100	0
	2019-2020 Hib Immunization Rate	2019-2020 Hib Exemption Rate
	99.07	.93
	2019-2020 HepB Immunization Rate	2019-2020 HepB Exemption Rate
	99.07	.93
	2019-2020 IPV Immunization Rate	2019-2020 IPV Exemption Rate
	100	0
	2019-2020 PCV13 Immunization Rate	2019-2020 PCV13 Exemption Rate
	99.07	.93
	2019-2020 Varicella Immunization Rate	2019-2020 Varicella Exemption Rate
	99.07	.93