



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Dear Provider,

On July 20, 2021, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) released [new P-12 school guidelines](#) as teachers, students, and staff prepare for the 2021-2022 school year. CDPHE will adopt and clarify school [guidance](#) released this month by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and is providing a practical guide for schools, parents, and students on how to operationalize the CDC guidance in the state's education settings.

Colorado has adopted a guidance model designed to empower local public health and local leaders to protect their communities using the mitigation strategies most appropriate to local conditions. The guidance does not constitute statewide requirements, but instead outlines evidence-based best practices for local governments and schools to manage the next stage of the pandemic.

In addition to vaccination, the state continues to recommend a layered approach of best practices to COVID-19 prevention. These best practices are described in detail in the [Back to School Roadmap](#), and include ventilation, maximization of outdoor activities, mask wearing, testing, spacing, cohorting, symptom screening, cleaning and disinfecting, and handwashing.

Colorado's best defense against COVID-19 is increased vaccinations, as vaccination prevents disruptions to in-person learning. Fully vaccinated staff and students won't have to miss school due to quarantine and fully vaccinated staff and students do not have to wear masks unless they choose to. Vaccines have been highly successful at preventing transmission, infections, and deaths from COVID-19. The back-to-school guide includes ways that CDPHE can partner with schools and school districts to host vaccination clinics and increase our defense against this virus. Children's risk of contracting COVID-19 is greatly reduced when they live in a household where all eligible individuals are fully vaccinated, even if the children are not yet eligible for vaccination. Any school or school district interested in hosting a vaccination clinic should complete the [Vaccination Event Request Form](#) to request more information about vaccination partnerships and outreach.

Visit covid19.colorado.gov for more information.

Colorado COVID-19 Health Care Provider Vaccine Information Toolkit

In an effort to best organize and make readily available the wide array of health care provider vaccine resources, trainings and materials related to the COVID-19 vaccination program, CDPHE has created the online [Colorado COVID-19 Health Care Provider Vaccine Information Toolkit](#). The toolkit has a variety of robust elements. Please share with your networks.

Thank you,

Department of Health Care Policy & Financing

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