



**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
300 DON GASPAR
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-2786
Telephone (505) 827-5800
www.ped.state.nm.us**

RYAN STEWART, Ed.L.D.
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

MEMORANDUM

To: Superintendents and Charter Leaders

From: Ryan Stewart, Secretary, New Mexico Public Education Department

Date: April 22, 2021

Re: Student Vaccination Week May 3rd through May 8th

The New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) and Public Education Department (PED) announce Student COVID-19 Vaccination Week May 3rd through May 8th. Students ages 16 and older will be given priority for first-dose appointments made through the NMDOH COVID-19 Vaccine Registration System. Expanded hours to better meet student needs will be available through some vaccination providers

Once students are fully vaccinated, they will not have to quarantine should they be identified as close contacts of a COVID-19 positive individual. Fully vaccinated students are also not considered part of the student surveillance testing pool.

Though there is a push to get students vaccinated the week of May 3rd through the 8th, students may be vaccinated before or after that week.

To schedule a vaccination appointment, families should register their students online at VaccineNM.org where they will be connected to local providers and available appointment times. Pfizer and Moderna vaccines will be available for these appointments. Pfizer vaccine is the only vaccine available for students 16-to-17-years-old. The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines require two vaccine doses and students will be automatically scheduled for the follow up dose through the registration app and families will also be able to self schedule the second dose.

Families should also register students who are not yet old enough to receive the vaccine. There will be additional vaccination efforts once vaccines are approved for use in younger students.

Please encourage students to register and provide opportunities for families to use school resources to get registered. The Department of Health can also assist those who need help registering for the event – including those who do not have Internet access. Please call the COVID-19 hotline at 1-855-600-3453, press option 0 (zero) for vaccine questions, and then option 4 for tech support.

The PED will provide school districts and charter schools with resources to share with families regarding the student vaccination effort as well as a consent form that may be shared with families. The consent form may be signed by parents at home and allows for a provider to vaccinate a minor student without having a parent present. Family resources and the consent form will be available in multiple languages.

For questions regarding DOH vaccination efforts please contact:

Dan Burke (505) 827-2412 / daniel.burke@state.nm.us

Dr. Thomas Massaro (505) 690-5748 / thomas.massaro@state.nm.us

For questions regarding PED requirements and supports please contact:

Ashley Garcia (505) 690-3842 / ashley.garcia@state.nm.us