



Frequently Asked Questions: 2024 School-Located Vaccination (SLV) Clinics for Flu

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) Office of Immunization, in partnership with The Wellness Company (TWC), provides School-Located Flu and COVID-19 vaccine clinics statewide.

Who is the school liaison and what is their role?

Your school liaison is a representative from your school staff (usually a school nurse or principal) who will be the single point-of-contact regarding the school's vaccination clinic. The liaison will be asked to schedule the clinic, secure the space, and facilitate clinic advertisement.

Who can attend SLV Clinics?

Each school liaison will be asked to identify the participants during the scheduling process. Daytime clinics are typically hosted for students and staff/faculty and may require a log in to access. Most evening clinics are open to the public.

Where can I find a list of the school clinics?

2024 school clinics will be posted at schoolflu.com in late August.

What vaccines are administered at SLV clinics?

- Flu Injectable (three years of age and older)
- FluMist (three to 18 years of age)
- Senior Vaccine (65 years of age and older)
- Updated COVID-19 vaccine (five years of age and older)

Do any of the vaccines offered contain preservatives or latex?

No, none of the vaccines contain preservatives or latex.

The 2024–2025 flu vaccines for the United States will contain three viral strains:

- Two strains against Influenza A (H1N1 and H3N2 strains)
- One strain against Influenza B

Will the flu vaccine protect me from COVID-19?

No, the Flu vaccine will not protect against COVID-19; however, both Flu and COVID-19 vaccinations have been shown to reduce the risk of Flu and COVID-19 related illness, hospitalization, and death.

What ready-made resources will the school receive?

The designated contact(s) will receive a digital toolkit in September which will include educational materials, templates, and a flier.

Flier includes:

- Date, time, and location of clinic(s)
- Link and QR code to online registration
- Fee details: No out-of-pocket cost; insurance information collected, if available
- Contact information for questions or to receive information in other languages

Templates will be sent for use with email, text, phone messages, and social media posts.

What are the best ways to advertise the clinic and increase participation?

- School calendar and website
- Share digital fliers with families
- Post on social media platform(s) (posts provided)
- Phone and text messaging applications (templates provided)
- Newsletters: include facts about the importance of vaccination and provide link to registration
- Involve Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- Daily announcement: include fast facts and clinic date reminder
- School marquis or other highly visible signage

Schools should advertise often and in various ways to maximize reach.

How do students, staff/faculty and family members register for a clinic?

- Register at schoolflu.com
- Scan the QR code with a smart phone camera
- Call the hotline 401-222-5960 for help with online registration or translation assistance

Is online registration required prior to the clinic?

Online registration is highly recommended to ensure clinics have adequate staffing and supplies. Appointments also lessen wait times. Walk-in registration may be limited, based on available resources.

Can minors who are 16 years of age and older consent for vaccine?

Yes, Rhode Island minors 16 years of age or older can consent for themselves (RIGL: 23-4.6-1).

What if students/staff/families cannot attend the flu vaccination clinic(s) scheduled at their school?

To find another community clinic that best fits their schedule, families can visit schoolflu.com.

How will home-schooled children be vaccinated?

To find a community clinic that best fits their schedule, families with home-schooled children can visit schoolflu.com.

Will students/families be required to provide identification?

No, legal identification is not required. Immigration status will not be asked.

How do patients receive proof of their vaccination?

- If an email is provided during online registration, proof will automatically be sent to that address.
- If no email is provided, patients can take a picture of their completed immunization record at the time of vaccination.

- Proof can be obtained after the clinic by calling The Wellness Company, 401-461-0662.
- All doses of vaccine will also be reported to RICAIR (Rhode Island Child and Adult Immunization Registry) within 48 hours of vaccination.
 - Providers can access the registry to update their patient medical records.

Is there a mandatory wait time after vaccination?

Yes, everyone will be asked to wait 10 minutes after their vaccination in case of an adverse reaction. Parents should be instructed to supervise their children after the vaccination and contact the nurse if they notice any unusual symptoms. During daytime clinics, teachers will be asked to monitor students and return to nurse if a reaction occurs.

Can pregnant students be vaccinated in schools?

No, students who are pregnant will be directed to their obstetricians' office.

What are the latest guidelines for getting the COVID-19 vaccine?

CDC recommends **everyone six months of age and older receive an updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine** to protect against the potentially serious outcomes of COVID-19 this fall and winter, regardless of whether they have previously been vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine. Updated COVID-19 vaccines will be available at school clinics.

The virus that causes COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2, is always changing and protection from COVID-19 vaccines declines over time. Receiving an updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine can restore and enhance protection against the virus variants currently responsible for most infections and hospitalizations in the United States. COVID-19 vaccination also reduces the chance of suffering the effects of Long COVID, which can develop during or following acute infection and last for an extended duration.

Last season, people who received a 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine saw greater protection against illness and hospitalization than those who did not receive a 2023-2024 vaccine. To date, hundreds of millions of people have safely received a COVID-19 vaccine under the most intense vaccine safety monitoring in United States history.