

June 23, 2021

Memorandum to: Directors of Education
School Authorities

From: Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister of Education

Subject: Accelerated Second Dose Eligibility for COVID-19
Vaccines, and Extended Youth Vaccination Period

The government values the important role that all educators play in keeping students and families safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Education is committed to keeping you updated on important health and safety information that will help you operate your schools and protect staff, students and families.

On June 17, 2021, the government announced the following plan to accelerate second dose eligibility of vaccines, inclusive of education staff, as follows:

- As of **Monday June 21, 2021** at 8:00 a.m., all Ontarians who received their first dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine on or before May 9, 2021 will be eligible to book or rebook their second dose appointment at a shortened interval.
- As of **Wednesday June 23, 2021** at 8:00 a.m., individuals who received their first dose of an mRNA vaccine on or before May 30, 2021 and who live in the catchment area of one of the 10 public health units identified as Delta hot spots (Durham, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Porcupine, Simcoe-Muskoka, Toronto, Waterloo, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph, and York public health units) will be eligible to book or rebook their second dose appointment at a shortened interval.
- Starting the **week of June 28, 2021** (days/sequence to be confirmed) all Ontarians aged 18 and over who have received their first dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine will be eligible to book their second dose appointment. The appointment will be scheduled at least 28 days after the first dose, per the recommended interval.

In addition, effective [June 14, 2021](#), education staff who received their first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine are also eligible to receive a second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine at an interval of eight to 12 weeks, with informed consent. This can include a second dose of AstraZeneca or an mRNA vaccine.

Education staff who are eligible to receive an accelerated second dose are invited to schedule their appointment through the [provincial booking system](#), directly through public health units that use their own booking system, and through [participating pharmacies](#). Select primary care providers will also be reaching out to book appointments.

Education staff can use Ontario's [vaccine booking system](#) to find out how to schedule an appointment, or can call the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line number at 1-833-943-3900. For general inquiries, individuals can call the Provincial Vaccine Information Line number at 1-888-999-6488 or TTY service is also available by calling [1-866-797-0007](#). Education staff can also visit [ontario.ca/pharmacycovidvaccine](#) to find a pharmacy offering a COVID-19 vaccine and to book an appointment.

As you are aware, the 12-17 youth focused vaccination weeks began on June 14, 2021. Youth clinics hosted by public health units are operating across the province and have administered first doses to more than 50 per cent of youth aged 12 to 17 to date. This uptake is very promising. To support greater uptake, the government has made the decision to extend the youth focused vaccination week to July 4, 2021.

As the school year comes to an end, the Ministry encourages school boards to continue to work with local public health units and reach out to eligible students and families to promote local vaccination efforts. Resources and information are available at [COVID-19 vaccines for youth | COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) in Ontario](#).

Thank you for your continued commitment to support Ontario's students and families and to keep education staff safe.

Sincerely,

Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister

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Board COVID-19 Leads

Executive Director, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)

Executive Director, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)

Executive Director, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)

Executive Director, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)

Executive Director and Secretary-Treasurer, Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO)

General Secretary, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)

General Secretary, Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)

General Secretary, Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)

Chair, Ontario Council of Educational Workers (OCEW)

Chair, Education Workers' Alliance of Ontario (EWAO)

Co-ordinator, Canadian Union of Public Employees – Ontario (CUPE-ON)

Executive Director, Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes (ADFO)

Executive Director, Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO)
Executive Director, Ontario Principals' Council (OPC)