

NORTH CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

"Caring For Our Communities"

419 East Seventh Street, The Dalles, OR 97058 Phone: 541-506-2600 Fax: 541-506-2601 Website: www.ncphd.org

Public Service Announcement

Date: Feb. 7, 2024 **To:** All Media

From: Shellie Campbell, Director

North Central Public Health District

Subject: School Exclusion Day is Wednesday, Feb. 21

Oregon law requires that all children attending public and private schools, pre-schools, Head Start and certified child care facilities have up-to-date immunization documentation (or have an exemption) to remain in school.

The goal is to make sure children are fully protected against vaccine-preventable diseases and can go to school in a safe and healthy environment. Immunization is a safe way to help protect your family, your school and your

community against disease.

The date for exclusion this year is Wednesday February 21. On Wednesday February 21, children will not be able to attend school or child care if their records on file show missing immunizations. Don't wait until the last minute! We encourage families to get their children's immunizations up to date as soon as possible.

Each year North Central Public Health District sends a letter to the parents of children who need additional immunizations, indicating what additional immunizations are needed. Letters will be mailed Feb. 7.

Please be aware that North Central Public Health District typically receives a large number of clients



needing to be immunized the week of school exclusion. Clients are asked to call 541-506-2600 to set up an appointment. No child will be turned away from North Central Public Health District due to a parents' inability to pay for required vaccines.

Parents seeking immunization for their child can also contact their primary care provider, or call 211 for information about where to go in your area.

In recent years there have been a few changes, please keep in mind:

Nonmedical exemption process: Parents wanting a new nonmedical exemption for their child must
provide documentation that they have received education about the benefits and risks of immunization
on a Vaccine Education Certificate. Parents can get education from a health care practitioner or from
watching an online vaccine education module. More information about the new process is available
here.

Additional information on school immunizations can be found at the Oregon Immunization Program website at www.healthoregon.org/imm.

(For more information, please contact North Central Public Health District at (541) 506-2600 or visit us on the web at www.ncphd.org or our Facebook Page at https://www.facebook.com/NorthCentralPublicHealth/.)

###