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Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

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(X) Informational

BULLETIN NO. 095-20 STUDENT SUPPORT

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Business Managers
Public Charter Schools
Tribal Compact Schools
School District Directors
School Nurse Supervisors

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Reminder of Immunization Rule Changes and Exceptions for the 2020–21 School Year for School Districts, Charter Schools, and Tribal Compact Schools

CONTACT: Annie Hetzel, School Health Services Consultant
360-725-6054, annie.hetzel@k12.wa.us

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

This bulletin provides a reminder about immunization rule changes that went into effect on August 1, 2020 and an exception for the 2020–21 school year related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on instructional modalities on Washington state.

IMMUNIZATION CHANGES IN 2020 REMINDER

Effective August 1, 2020, new immunization rules adopted by the Washington State Board of Health in [Chapter 246-105 WAC](#) established requirements for medically verified immunization records and changed the timing of Tdap vaccine. Bulletin B046-20 was issued by OSPI on June 15, 2020 notifying school districts of the rule change.

REMINDER OF THE EXCEPTION IN THE 2020–21 SCHOOL YEAR FOR DISTANCE LEARNING ONLY

On August 25, 2020 a joint statement was released by OSPI and the Washington State Department of Health clarifying school vaccine requirements for distance learning during COVID-19. The recommendations for schools allow students who are out of compliance with

immunization requirements to be enrolled and served immediately for remote or virtual learning only. Schools should continue to work with families to obtain complete immunization records in anticipation of return to in-person instruction.

Students must be in full compliance with immunization rules to attend any in-person instruction.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Additional information can be found on the Department of Health Rule Change [webpage](#). For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Annie Hetzel, School Health Services Consultant, at 360-725-6054 or email annie.hetzel@k12.wa.us. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

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CR:bpm

Attachments: [B046-20](#)
[Joint OSPI/DOH Statement](#)

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