

**Pinellas County Schools
Employee Wellness Program
2019 Flu Vaccine Program
www.pcsb.org/wellness**

Flu Vaccine – Frequently Asked Questions

1. What company provides the flu shots to Pinellas County Schools?

a. Answer: Health & Wellness Professionals, Inc.

2. Who can get the flu shot at a PCS Worksite?

a. Answer: PCS Employees, spouses, dependents 16 years and older (dependents 16-17 years old must have parent present) and retirees with active PCS Aetna insurance. Insurance cards must be shown at the time of the vaccination, no exceptions. PCS employees without Aetna insurance may receive the flu shot at a PCS location for \$32.00, paid either with cash or check. Checks to be made payable to Health and Wellness Professionals.

3. I can't make it to my worksite's scheduled time or my worksite doesn't have a scheduled time. What are my options?

a. Answer: PCS employees may go to any worksite on the schedule to receive the flu shot. If there are no scheduled worksites that work with your schedule, employees with health insurance through Aetna may also go to their physician's office, there should be no fee for this because it is a preventative service. However, check with your physician to see if you will be charged for an office visit. You may also go to any pharmacy counter (i.e. Walgreens, CVS, Publix, Target, Walmart, etc.) and receive the flu vaccine at no cost when showing Aetna insurance card.

4. When should I not receive the flu vaccine?

a. Answer: If you answer "YES" to any of the following questions, you should NOT receive the flu vaccine.

- i. Severe allergy to eggs, egg products, chicken or chicken feathers.
- ii. Allergic to epinephrine.
- iii. Have a neurological disorder and/or have been paralyzed with Gullian-Barre Syndrome (need a release from physician).
- iv. Am pregnant or think you might be pregnant (must have a signed release from OB/GYN doctor if desiring a flu shot).
- v. Currently have a fever, sore throat, and /or taking antibiotics for cold / flu symptoms.
- vi. Have had a severe reaction or have become ill after receiving the flu vaccine previously.

5. If I pay for the flu shot, can I get a receipt so I can turn it into my Flexible Spending Account?

a. Answer: Yes, just ask for a receipt.

6. Do you give the nasal or inhaled flu vaccine?

- a. Answer: No, only the injectable flu vaccine is given at Pinellas County Schools. This year the vaccine is quadrivalent and will provide protection against four viruses.

7. Why did you schedule the flu vaccine location at my school when I have class?

- a. Answer: This year we are offering vaccines at over 50 school sites. With having this many sites, it is impossible to have times that are convenient for everyone or to offer before and after work hours at each location. All the times are pre-approved by the Principal at the site and we have found them to be very accommodating in allowing their staff to get the flu shot. Also, there are other several other convenient options that are available for you to receive the flu vaccine at no fee (i.e. pharmacy counters at any pharmacy and your primary care office).

8. Do I need to pre-register?

- a. Answer: No. The consent form will be available at the site for you to complete. Just pick a site and walk-in. Have your Aetna card ready or payment for the \$32 (cash or check).

9. Can I get the flu vaccine if I'm allergic to eggs?

- a. Answer: This year the CDC recommends that you not get the flu shot if you have a **severe** allergy to eggs. If you are severely allergic to eggs and have had a reaction to the flu shot in the past, it is recommended that you talk to your physician. If you decide to have the flu vaccine it should be given in a medical environment that is equipped to handle a severe reaction.

10. Can I get the flu vaccine if I'm pregnant or breastfeeding?

- a. Answer: Health and Wellness Professionals, Inc. will not administer to anyone pregnant unless they have a physician's order; if the individual is breast feeding she may receive the vaccine.

11. What is the preservative in the vaccine?

- a. Answer: This year's vaccine is preservative free.

12. Will I receive an Aetna Health Promise Incentive credit for receiving the flu vaccine?

- a. Yes, you will earn 1 credit for receiving the flu vaccine. If you receive the flu vaccine at a PCS worksite or a pharmacy counter the points will automatically be credited to your Aetna Health Promise account. Your spouse will also earn 1 credit for receiving the flu vaccine if they are on your PCS health plan.

Please direct any questions about the flu vaccine schedule to Dawn Handley, handleyd@pcsb.org or 588-6151.