



THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

DECEMBER 2020

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner

Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

To: Medical Practitioners
From: Connecticut Department of Public Health
Date: 12/04/20
RE: In order to ensure that all healthcare personnel in Connecticut have access to a COVID vaccine, there is action that employers of healthcare workers need to take

To prepare for the distribution and vaccination of healthcare personnel, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) is gathering information from healthcare organizations (e.g., medical practices, clinics, home health agencies) throughout Connecticut that are unaffiliated with larger health systems.

Healthcare personnel include all paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infection materials.

In order to make vaccine available, one representative (the "Employer Coordinator") from each healthcare organization should complete the survey found at the link below. The representative should be an individual who has access to a roster of healthcare personnel within their organization. Completing this survey will prompt an email to be sent from the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS) so the employer coordinator can register the organization. Once registered, the coordinator can upload a roster which allows rostered healthcare personnel to schedule a vaccination appointment once supply is available. All personnel on the roster will be allowed to schedule an appointment.

VAMS is a secure, web-based application that is by invitation only to register. Please complete the information in the survey if you are a healthcare organization or you are an organization that employs healthcare personnel (for instance a school or university that employs healthcare personnel).

Each healthcare organization must have an Employer Coordinator who can identify the individuals who need to receive the COVID-19 vaccination within this initial phase of vaccine roll-out. These same Employer Coordinators will also need to be able to respond when additional cohorts of individuals are eligible to receive vaccines (e.g., larger portions of the critical workforce).

Independently practicing healthcare providers should complete a survey for themselves.

The deadline for completing the survey is December 18, 2020, but faster completion is important to enable rapid access to potential vaccination.

Please click the link to complete the survey. Or copy and paste the link into your browser.
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nyEd2iuUijwJH_abtz0SEFKG1mGtPn6XK2z73cKhUOTV5sRVMONHTVVRTD10UJFFvM0U0VUe5Vj4u



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CDC Considerations for School Sealant Programs During COVID-19

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released considerations for [school sealant programs](#) (SSPs) during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. SSPs are a highly effective way to provide preventive oral health services to children who are at greater risk for developing cavities and less likely to receive private dental care. Many SSPs have been suspended as communities respond to COVID-19.

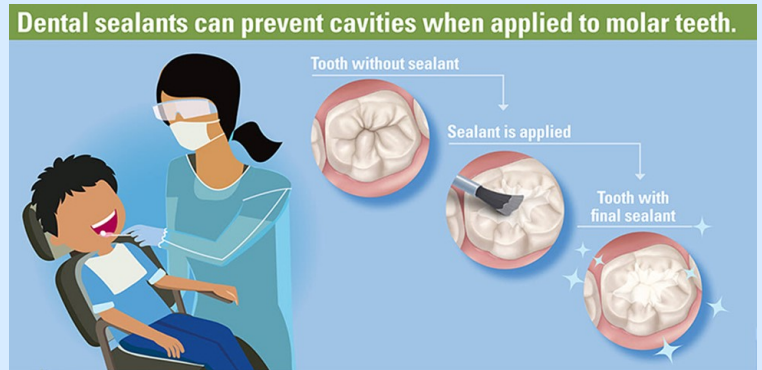
These considerations are intended to aid oral health programs that conduct SSPs, dental healthcare personnel (DHCP) who provide direct oral health services, and school administrators as they prepare to implement SSPs during the COVID-19 pandemic while protecting the health, safety, and wellbeing of students, teachers, staff, and DHCP.

For more information, please visit the following pages:

CDC's [Considerations for School Sealant Programs](#)

CDC's [Guidance for Dental Settings](#)

CDC's [Schools and Child Care Programs](#)



Tuesday Mornings with: CSDE/DPH COVID-19 Health and Safety Meetings

The weekly meetings with the State Departments of Education and Public Health (Tuesdays 8 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.) will continue and for those previously registered, no action is necessary. Your current link will remain active for all meetings and you will continue to receive a Goto Webinar reminder an hour before the start of each meeting. If you have never registered, use the following link if you are interested in participating: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1833072109561771533>.

CSDE and DPH: Dedicated School Nurse Forum for COVID-19 Q&A Thursday, December 10, 2020 5 pm to 6 pm

The State Departments of Education and Public Health will be providing another Q&A Forum **for school nurses only** on Thursday, December 10, 2020, from 5 pm to 6 pm. School nurse supervisors and lead school nurses, please be sure to forward this email to all of your school nurse colleagues, so they may join the conversation.

Please register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4179293586573622539>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

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