



We are stronger when we are all protected against flu



Dear California Child Care Director,

Even though child care may look different this year, getting vaccinated against influenza (flu) is more important than ever. Flu and COVID-19 [share many symptoms](#). Preventing flu means fewer teachers, staff and students will miss school to seek medical care and save limited resources for COVID-19 patients. While those with [chronic health conditions are most at risk](#), even healthy kids and adults can be hospitalized or die from flu complications.

As a reminder, child care staff and volunteers are required by law (Chapter 807, Statutes of 2015) to get vaccinated against flu, unless they have a signed letter from a doctor for either a medical exemption or a declination. Babies and young children need flu vaccine every year starting at age 6 months old.

Flu vaccination is the best way to protect against flu. We are stronger when we are all protected! Take these steps to protect your facility from flu:

1. **Promote** [vaccinefinder.org](#) and your [local health department](#) to staff and families seeking where to go for flu vaccination
2. **Share** with staff, parents, and colleagues online:
 - [Don't Wait Vaccinate flu campaign](#) social media messages
 - Personal stories like [Breanne's Story](#) (15-month old girl) and [Gigi's Story](#) (teacher)
3. **Post** these resources at your facility:
 - [Protect Against Flu and Whooping Cough poster](#) | [Spanish](#)
 - [Parents Keep Our School Healthy poster](#) (bilingual)
 - [Keep Our School Healthy Symptoms poster](#) | [Spanish](#)
 - [Germ-Free Zone multilingual poster](#) | [English/Spanish](#) | [English/Chinese](#)
 - [Keep Our School Healthy poster](#)



- [Teaching Children About the Flu](#)—Lesson plans and activities for child care and early childhood programs (CDC).

Download other [flu print resources](#) at EZIZ.org. For more information about flu, visit www.flu.gov.

Thanks for all that you do to keep staff and children safe and healthy.