



Lisa Witkus <witkusl@kingphilip.org>

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**Fwd: Important update on flu vaccine requirement**

1 message

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**Lisa Witkus** <witkusl@kingphilip.org>  
To: Lisa Witkus <witkusl@kingphilip.org>

Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 8:41 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Reis, Jacqueline (DESE)** <[Commissioner-List@list1.doe.mass.edu](mailto:Commissioner-List@list1.doe.mass.edu)>  
Date: Fri, Jan 15, 2021 at 12:58 PM  
Subject: Important update on flu vaccine requirement  
To: Reis, Jacqueline (DESE) <[jacqueline.reis@mass.gov](mailto:jacqueline.reis@mass.gov)>

Dear Superintendents, Charter School Leaders, Collaborative Leaders, Leaders of Approved Special Education Schools, Private School Leaders, and Principals,

Please see the message below, which the Department of Public Health just sent to school nurses and which removes the flu vaccine requirement.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Riley  
Commissioner

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**From:** Robitaille, Karen (DPH) <[Karen.Robitaille3@mass.gov](mailto:Karen.Robitaille3@mass.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2021 12:16 PM  
**Subject:** IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR SCHOOL NURSES RE INFLUENZA VACCINE REQUIREMENT

Greetings from the School Health Unit:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is removing the requirement for flu vaccination for attendance in childcare/preschool, primary, secondary and postsecondary education. Preliminary data show that this has been a mild flu season to date, presumably as people have received their seasonal flu vaccine and have been adhering to mask-wearing and social distancing due to COVID-19. Given the intensive Commonwealth-wide efforts regarding COVID-19 vaccination, DPH wants to alleviate the burden to obtain flu vaccination and focus on continuing our COVID -19 vaccination efforts.

DPH continues to strongly recommend that everyone age six months and older receive their seasonal flu vaccine each year.

Thank you for all your hard work on behalf of the young people and families of our Commonwealth,

Karen

**Karen Robitaille, MBA, MSN, RN, NCSN**

<she, her, hers>

**Director of School Health Services**

Division of Child/Adolescent Health and Reproductive Health

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

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All the best,