



# SHOO THE FLU

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

### What is Shoo the Flu?

Shoo the Flu is a school-based flu vaccine program for Oakland-area schools. It is a partnership between the Alameda County Public Health Department, California Department of Public Health, Oakland Unified School District and other community partners.

Providing flu vaccines at school is one of the best ways to protect a community from the flu, reduce illness and reduce school absenteeism.

The flu vaccination is free and it is the same flu vaccine that is provided by health care provider's offices and clinics. Only students with a signed consent form will get a vaccine. Flu vaccines are not a requirement to attend school.

School staff can also get a free flu vaccine. Consent forms for teachers/staff will be provided on the scheduled Vaccine Day.

### How will Vaccine Days work?

School staff, nurses, and volunteers all work together to help Vaccine Days run smoothly:

- A team of nurses will set up in a space designated by the school such as an auditorium or library.
- Students with a completed consent form will be escorted to the vaccination area class by class.
- Teachers will be asked to identify students before they leave the classroom.
- Volunteers will be needed to escort groups of students to and from the vaccine area or to help students line up.

All students with signed consent forms will be sent home with a Parent Notification Form indicating if they were vaccinated or not. Vaccination records will also be entered into the California Immunization Registry (CAIR).

### How do schools prepare for Shoo the Flu?

Participating schools will be sent materials (posters, announcement scripts) to help spread the word about Shoo the Flu. Please post these materials around your school.

Teachers can find additional resources such as coloring pages and lesson plans at [shootheflu.org](http://shootheflu.org).

Consent forms will be sent to schools in September. Translated versions will be provided in Spanish, Chinese, Cambodian, Vietnamese and Arabic.

Schools distribute consent forms to each student. Parents can also download the consent form at [shootheflu.org/consent](http://shootheflu.org/consent).

Teachers will receive envelopes to collect and store completed consent forms. Please remind your students to turn in their forms on time.

A collection box for these envelopes will be placed in the school's front office.

Three days before the scheduled Vaccine Day, schools should put all completed consent forms and their envelopes in the provided collection box for Shoo the Flu staff to review.

Schools should recruit parent volunteers to help on the scheduled Vaccine Day.

TURN OVER FOR FLU AND FLU VACCINE FACTS





## FLU AND FLU VACCINE FACTS

1. Children are often the ones to spread the flu because they have a higher risk of infection, are more likely to spread the flu to others, and are often around many other children.
2. Flu vaccines are the most effective way to prevent the flu.
3. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend the flu vaccine every year for anyone older than 6 months.
4. School-based flu vaccinations have been shown to reduce illness and school absenteeism.
5. The flu vaccine protects against the strains anticipated for each flu season. **Only the flu shot is recommended for the 2017-2018 season.**
6. Flu vaccines are safe; hundreds of millions of vaccines have been provided safely in the U.S.
7. Some people may experience flu-like symptoms after getting the vaccine. This does not mean that these people have the flu.
8. In adults and children, the flu shot can create soreness, redness or swelling at the site of the shot. Overall body aches and mild fever may also occur.
9. The flu vaccine does not always prevent the flu. It can take two weeks after vaccination for the body to build full protection. Usually, people who have had the vaccine and get the flu have a milder case.
10. People can also protect themselves from the flu with healthy eating habits, careful hand washing, covering their coughs, and protecting others by staying home when sick.



---

Any questions or concerns can be addressed to:

Alameda County Public Health Department

[shootheflu@acgov.org](mailto:shootheflu@acgov.org)

510-267-3230