

DATE: January 7, 2022
TO: Clackamas County Schools and Child Care Facilities
FROM: Philip Mason-Joyner, Clackamas County Public Health Division Director
RE: Revised Timeline for the Immunization Exclusion Process, 2021-2022

In response to the Omicron variant’s presence in our community, the Clackamas County Public Health Division is *shifting resources* to meet the changing priorities and needs in the COVID-19 response. In December, the Governor’s office requested all COVID-19 vaccinators to boost an additional one million people by January 31, 2022. Vaccination is the most effective tool in the prevention of disease spread, and we have been asked to double or triple our COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

In addition, we know that the pandemic has created challenges for families in terms of vaccine access. Early on, the pandemic caused medical practices to postpone or cancel well-child visits, and more recently, the increased demand for boosters, staffing shortages and changing eligibility groups for COVID-19 vaccine have led to limited access for pediatric vaccine appointments.

For these reasons, we are delaying the immunization school exclusion process from February to April. The most urgent vaccine-preventable disease right now is COVID-19, which we are actively addressing by shifting resources and delaying school exclusion. We also hope giving families additional time to access vaccines will help families, especially those living in rural areas where access is most challenging. Please review this revised timeline and mark your calendars:

March 9, 2022	Primary Review Summary due* (pages 1 & 2 with photocopied incomplete records)
April 6, 2022	Exclusion orders mailed to parents
April 20, 2022	Exclusion Day (children still out of compliance need to be sent home)
May 2, 2022	Primary Review f/u reports due (updated page 2, page 3 and page 4 due to your local health department)
May 20, 2022	Share your immunization rates (see www.healthoregon.org/immdata for more information)
* If you have already completed your Primary Review and have no students to exclude, please complete the follow-up reports and send them to us at your earliest convenience. You do not need to complete the reports a second time.	

We know that you may have already started this process, and we encourage you to keep working with families to get students the immunizations they need to stay in school. We also know that schools are currently inundated with managing COVID-19 cases so we hope this decision offers some relief. We apologize for any inconvenience related to this decision, and we urge you to reach out to our Immunization Program with questions or concerns, immunizations@clackamas.us