



2018 Olmsted and Dodge County School-Located Immunization Program Frequently Asked Questions

Mayo Clinic, Olmsted Medical Center, Olmsted County Public Health Services, and county schools partner to offer the flu vaccine at all schools in the county.

What is new this year?

- Sign up starts August 8 and will end on September 12 at 11 P.M. You cannot sign up your child after September 12
- The nasal spray (FluMist, LAIV) returns this year
- We will go to Kasson/Mantorville elementary, middle, and high schools

Why should school-aged children get the flu vaccine?

Preventing disease and keeping our children healthy is important! One of the best ways to keep our children healthy is through vaccines. Seasonal flu is a serious disease that spreads quickly among children. Children have the highest attack rates during community outbreaks of the flu. They are usually the first to have the disease in the community. They spread the flu very quickly to their family members, friends, and neighbors. Protecting our children from flu protects all of us. Everyone 6 months and older should get the flu vaccine every year.

Why is my school involved?

Getting the vaccine at school makes it easier for both children and parents. Children miss about 15 minutes of school. Parents don't have to miss work. It also keeps our schools and community healthier during the flu season.

Who can get the flu vaccine at the school?

All students K-12 who are signed up and qualify can get the vaccine. Even those without insurance can get the vaccine. This program cannot provide preschool children, parents, and teachers the flu vaccine.

Who is giving my child the flu vaccine?

Nurses from Mayo Clinic and Olmsted Medical Center are giving the vaccine. They are using their own supplies from their own clinics. Children are assigned a clinic if they do not have local medical care yet.

Should I be at the school with my child?

No. Permission is given for a child to get the vaccine in school by signing up.

When will flu vaccine be given at my child's school?

Please see dates on the SEMIC website: <http://www.semic.org/schoolfluclinics.aspx>

Can my child get the nasal spray (FluMist, LAIV) vaccine this year?

Yes! The nasal spray is being offered this year. It is once again recommended as an option as one of the vaccines against influenza.

How do I sign up my child?

Parents can sign up their child online at <http://www.semnic.org/schoolfluclinics.aspx>. The child's clinic will keep the completed form. The clinic will update the child's health record after the vaccine is given. Parents can also get a paper form at their children's schools if needed.

Is there a cost?

Insurance plans will cover all costs. You will have no out-of-pocket charges unless your child is seen for routine medical care at a clinic other than Mayo Clinic or Olmsted Medical Center. If you do not have insurance, there will be no charge for the vaccine, but you may get a bill for \$21.22 for the administration fee. If you cannot pay, please call the account services number listed below. No child will be turned away. All parents will get a statement that shows the bill and insurance coverage. This will be the same as the statement from a regular clinic vaccine visit.

Mayo Clinic Patient Account Services: 507-266-5670 or 1-800-660-4582
Olmsted Medical Center Patient Account Services: 507-288-3443

What should I know about flu vaccine?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a website that has detailed information about flu and the vaccine. The info is here:

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/index.htm>

What if my child has a reaction to the vaccine?

Parents will be told right away if this happens at school. Refer to the [VIS](#) to learn what typical and not typical reactions are to the vaccine. Contact your child's health provider if your child has a moderate to severe reaction. Seek medical care as recommended.

What if my child has an allergy or a chronic disease?

Few allergies and chronic diseases prevent children from getting the flu vaccine. Read the Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/current-vis.html>. For other health questions, parents should call their child's health provider or nurse line.

Why didn't my child get the flu vaccine? I signed them up.

There are a few reasons why this may have happened:

- You did not sign up your child by September 12.
- The sign up form was not complete or had the wrong info (wrong child, wrong birthdate, wrong school).
- Your middle school or high school child did not come to get the vaccine when called.
- Your child did not cooperate.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

For non-health questions, contact info is below. We plan to answer your email or calls within one working day.

Email: schoolflu@mayo.edu

Phone (may leave message): 507-293-4800