

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Department of Health**



October 15, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As you have probably heard, DC received its first shipment of H1N1 vaccine this past week. The majority of this vaccine has gone to healthcare and emergency response employees per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) guidelines on priority recipients of the vaccine.

Over the next few weeks, we will be sending out regular updates on the availability of the vaccine and encouraging certain populations to seek out the vaccine.

Once the vaccine becomes available, the District will vaccinate the high priority groups defined by the CDC first, by using healthcare providers, community health clinics and vaccination clinics around the District. The high priority groups are:

- Pregnant women
- Health care workers and emergency medical responders
- People caring for infants under 6 months of age
- Children and young adults from 6 months to 24 years
- People aged 25 to 64 years with underlying medical conditions, such as asthma or diabetes

While DOH will be hosting vaccination clinics for school-aged children this coming week, many pediatricians, family physicians, community health clinics and pharmacies have signed up to provide the vaccine. DOH encourages all parents and guardians to call their child's doctor to see if they are providing the vaccine. If your doctor is providing the vaccine, you may be able to get it before the vaccination clinics begin.

The supply of H1N1 vaccine will continue to increase throughout flu season, and there should eventually be enough vaccine for everyone in the District. Attached to this letter you will find a chart with information on the vaccine and when DOH expects to be able to make it available to priority groups and the rest of the District.

In addition to getting the H1N1 vaccine, the best way to help prevent the spread of the flu is to:

- Cover your cough with your elbow or a tissue
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water
- Stay home if you are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

DOH continues to monitor infection rates in schools and across the District as we approach the colder months. We will keep District residents informed and alert you to new information on H1N1. For more information regarding the H1N1 vaccine, how to approach H1N1 with your children and other H1N1 influenza materials please visit [flu.dc.gov](http://flu.dc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Pierre Vigilance'.

Pierre Vigilance, MD, MPH  
Director  
District of Columbia Department of Health

### H1N1 Vaccine Clinic Schedule for Youth and Pregnant Women

Cardozo Senior High School (W1) Ballou Senior High School (W8)	Tuesday October 20	5:00-9:00pm
Eliot-Hine Middle School (W6) Kelly Miller Middle School (W7)	Thursday October 22	5:00-9:00pm
Hardy Middle School (W2) Wilson Senior High School (W3) Coolidge Senior High School (W4) McKinley Tech Senior High School (W5)	Saturday October 24	8:00am- 4:00pm
Eliot-Hine Middle School (W6) Kelly Miller Middle School (W7)	Tuesday October 27	5:00-9:00pm
Hardy Middle School (W2) Wilson Senior High School (W3)	Thursday October 29	5:00-9:00pm
Cardozo Senior High School (W1) Coolidge Senior High School (W4) McKinley Tech Senior High School (W5) Ballou Senior High School (W8)	Saturday October 31	8:00am- 4:00pm
Hardy Middle School (W2) Wilson Senior High School (W3)	Tuesday November 3	5:00-9:00pm
Coolidge Senior High School (W4) McKinley Tech Senior High School (W5)	Thursday November 5	5:00-9:00pm
Cardozo Senior High School (W1) Ballou Senior High School (W8) Eliot-Hine Middle School (W6) Kelly Miller Middle School (W7)	Saturday November 7	8:00am- 4:00pm
Coolidge Senior High School (W4) McKinley Tech Senior High School (W5)	Tuesday November 10	5:00-9:00pm
Cardozo Senior High School (W1) Ballou Senior High School (W8)	Thursday November 12	5:00-9:00pm
Eliot-Hine Middle School (W6) Kelly Miller Middle School (W7) Hardy Middle School (W2) Wilson Senior High School (W3)	Saturday November 14	8:00am- 4:00pm