



THE HSC HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Health Services for Children
with Special Needs, Inc.

August 25, 2021

Dear HSCSN Provider,

The purpose of this notice is to alert you of recent updates to COVID-19 vaccination and safety requirements in the District of Columbia (District).

In the District's announcement dated August 16, 2021, Mayor Muriel Bowser released new COVID-vaccination timeframes applicable to all District health care professionals. The new timeframes require that all health care professionals and/or health care workers receive at least the first dose of the Pfizer or Moderna or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine by no later than **September 30, 2021**.

This vaccination requirement applies to:

- All licensed, certified and registered health professionals;
- All emergency services (EMS) providers (i.e. paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs);
- All unlicensed health care workers (i.e. patient care technicians, personal care aides, environmental services staff)

Health care workers must also be fully vaccinated (one dose of Johnson & Johnson or two doses of Pfizer or Moderna) prior to:

- The submission date for application or renewal for licensure, certification, or registration with the District (including DC Medicaid enrollment)
- The start date of employment or a contractual relationship in cases where licensure is not required
- Any date specified by the DC Department of Health in written or electronic communication to the person/applicant, as applicable.

In addition to the Mayor's vaccine mandate, DC Health through emergency rulemaking, has now mandated that a person licensed to practice one of the identified professions (identified in DC Health's, August 11, 2021 communication) must complete two (2) hours of continuing education on COVID-19 vaccines, including, but not limited to, COVID-19 vaccine safety, best practices for counseling patients about COVID-19 vaccines, and COVID-19 vaccine efficacy and effectiveness, on or before September 30, 2021. These hours of continuing



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education may be counted as hours required for public health priorities training hours or optional training hours where applicable.

You can view a copy of these requirements on the District's website at <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/release/mayor-bowser-and-dc-health-announce-vaccination-requirement-district-health-professionals> and DC Health's training communication at <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/DCWASH/bulletins/2ec4302>. Some professionals or workers may be exempt from the vaccination due to religious beliefs, or medical conditions. All HSCSN Network Providers should review the District's approved exemption protocols and employ the appropriate safety measures, where applicable. As an HSCSN Network Provider, you play an integral role in our COVID-19 recovery and response plan. This includes ensuring enrollee access to safe, continuous care during these challenging times.

If you have not already done so, we urge you to implement the necessary steps within your practices, offices, and/or facilities to ensure staff compliance with the vaccination requirements prior to the **September 30, 2021** deadline. Should your practice or organization encounter challenges in meeting the required vaccination timeframes or training requirement(s), you **must** immediately notify HSCSN in writing, providing a remediation plan and timeframe for achieving full compliance. Written correspondence should be submitted to: **HSCSN Compliance** at Compliance@hschealth.org. Failure to comply with the vaccination requirements may result in the suspension of your in-network status with HSCSN or termination of your Participating Provider Agreement.

Thank you for partnering with HSCSN to provide quality care services to our enrollees. Should you have any questions about this communication, please reach out to your Provider Relations Representative.

Sincerely,

Kenya C. Onley
Sr. Director, Provider Network Management



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For more information visit www.hscsnhealthplan.org.

For reasonable accommodations please call (202) 467-2737.

If you do not speak and/or read English, please call 202-467-2737 between 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. A representative will assist you. **English.**

Si no habla o lee inglés, llame al 202-467-2737 entre las 7:00 a.m. y las 5:30 p.m. Un representante se complacerá en asistirle. **Spanish.**

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Nếu bạn không nói và/hoặc đọc tiếng Anh, xin gọi 202-467-2737 từ 7 giờ 00 sáng đến 5 giờ 30 chiều. Sẽ có người đại diện giúp bạn. **Vietnamese.**

如果您不能講和/或不能閱讀英語，請在上午 7:00 到下午 5:30 之間給 (202) 467-2737 打電話，我們會有代表幫助您。 **Traditional Chinese.**

영어로 대화를 못하시거나 영어를 읽지 못하시는 경우, 오전 7시 00분에서 오후 5시 30분 사이에 (202) 467-2737번으로 전화해 주시기 바랍니다. 담당 직원이 도와드립니다. **Korean.**

Si vous ne parlez pas ou lisez l'anglais, s'il vous plaît appeler 202-467-2737 entre 7:00 du matin et 5:30 du soir. Un représentant vous aidera. **French.**



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

This program is funded in part by the Government of the District of Columbia
Department of Health Care Finance.

HSCSN complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not
discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

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Family and Community Development Outreach Department 3400 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20032 (202) 580.6485
hscsnhealthplan.org

January 2021