

The government values the important role that all educators play in keeping students and families safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Education is committed to keeping you updated on important health and safety information that will help you operate your schools and protect staff, students and families.

On June 17, 2021, the government announced the following plan to accelerate second dose eligibility of vaccines, inclusive of education staff, as follows:

- As of **Monday June 21, 2021** at 8:00 a.m., all Ontarians who received their first dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine on or before May 9, 2021 will be eligible to book or rebook their second dose appointment at a shortened interval.
- As of **Wednesday June 23, 2021** at 8:00 a.m., individuals who received their first dose of an mRNA vaccine on or before May 30, 2021 and who live in the catchment area of one of the 10 public health units identified as Delta hot spots (Durham, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Porcupine, Simcoe-Muskoka, Toronto, Waterloo, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph, and York public health units) will be eligible to book or rebook their second dose appointment at a shortened interval.
- Starting the **week of June 28, 2021** (days/sequence to be confirmed) all Ontarians aged 18 and over who have received their first dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine will be eligible to book their second dose appointment. The appointment will be scheduled at least 28 days after the first dose, per the recommended interval.

In addition, effective [June 14, 2021](#), education staff who received their first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine are also eligible to receive a second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine at an interval of eight to 12 weeks, with informed consent. This can include a second dose of AstraZeneca or an mRNA vaccine.

As you are aware, the 12-17 youth focused vaccination weeks began on June 14, 2021. Youth clinics hosted by public health units are operating across the province and have administered first doses to more than 50 per cent of youth aged 12 to 17 to date. This uptake is very promising. To support greater uptake, the government has made the decision to extend the youth focused vaccination week to July 4, 2021.

As the school year comes to an end, the Ministry encourages school boards to continue to work with local public health units and reach out to eligible students and families to promote local vaccination efforts. Resources and information are available at [COVID-19 vaccines for youth | COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) in Ontario](#).

Thank you for your continued commitment to support Ontario's students and families and to keep education staff safe.