



WEEKLY UPDATE | March 15 – 2021



FROM THE DIRECTORS



NATIONAL HEAD START ASSOCIATION

Dear Head Start community,

Did you hear? Head Start and Early Head Start staff are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.

President Biden made an important [announcement](#) last week regarding early childhood educators and COVID-19 vaccines. He has directed all states to prioritize educators, including Head Start and Early Head Start staff in all agency roles, in vaccination efforts. To bring this announcement to life, a new [federal partnership with pharmacies](#) goes beyond states' individual vaccination plans, creating more accessibility to match the change in eligibility.

While the details are still becoming clear, NHSA is sharing the information we know so far:

- Head Start and Early Head Start staff in all roles are eligible under this directive. This includes everyone from directors to teachers to cooks to bus drivers, as well as childcare partners.



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- While not all states have changed their eligibility criteria to include educators, vaccine appointments at pharmacy locations under the federal partnership are available to all Head Start staff, regardless of state eligibility.
- You are not required to present evidence of employment at these pharmacy locations. Appointments made through your state websites may have different requirements.
- Vaccines are free. Some locations may charge an administrative fee, though you cannot be denied a vaccine if you're unable to cover this fee, and you may be asked to provide your insurance information if you have it.

To learn more and find a participating pharmacy near you, visit the [CDCs participating pharmacy page](#) or [VaccineFinder.org](#).

NHSA is hard at work developing further resources that will support you and your communities when it comes to COVID-19 vaccination efforts. If you have any resources or practices that you've found helpful in your program or have specific needs, we might be able to assist with, please share them with us at vaccines@nhsa.org.

Keeping the commitment,

Yasmina Vinci

Executive Director, NHSA

P.S. The Administration for Children and Families is co-hosting an "[Early Childhood Vaccine Priority Stakeholder Webinar](#)" with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention this Friday, March 12, from 1-2pm ET during which they will provide additional information and answer questions.



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Education Department



Spring Break and Program Calendars

Spring Break is coming for our PD/PY and Duration staff and Head Start virtual services program. The week of Spring Break varies with the cities that the classrooms are located, and one does include a holiday in the middle of the week.

- Napa PDPY & duration classrooms and Napa Head Start remote services programs, spring break will be March 28-April 2, with your Cesar Chavez Holiday being assigned to the Friday before, March 26th
- Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville PDPY & duration classrooms and Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville Head Start remote services programs, spring break is April 5-9 and will celebrate the Cesar Chavez Holiday on March 31
- Head Start State Preschool and Full Day, EHS classrooms, EHS virtual services, and Home Base will celebrate the Cesar Chavez Holiday on March 31.

If you have any questions about holidays and closures, please talk with your supervisor and refer to the Child Start Program Calendar 2020-2021 and summary (revised on 10/12/2020) and can be located on our website staff portal.

This information is available only to CSI staff, Board and Policy Council (user name and password or authentication required).

Click the link below and choose the Procedures box:

[Network Access - Child Start Inc.](#)

[2020-2021 program calendar and summary.pdf](#)



Website: www.childstartinc.org



Contact: Luis Pineda
707-333-1874

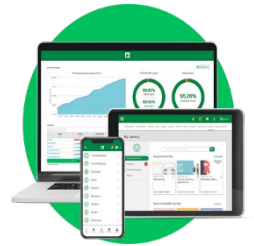


Email: lpineda@childstartinc.org

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Human Resources Department



IMPORTANT COVID- 19 POLICIES UPDATE

COVID-19 Symptoms at Home

An employee who comes in close contact (less than 6 feet) with a confirmed COVID-19 case or is having COVID-19 symptoms such as temperature of 100.4 or over, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing, will be required to stay home and **take a COVID-19 test**. The employee must self-quarantine 14 days from last known exposure or onset of symptoms. Employee must communicate with HR. See **Test Results** section for next steps.

Employees having a temperature of 100.4 or over, need to stay home until 72 hours have passed without a fever without the aid of fever reducing medication. Employee must communicate with HR. Employees having 'symptoms' that can be rationally explained (i.e. sneezing, runny nose allergies), can come to work.

COVID-19 Symptoms at Work

When a staff member working at any Child Start location has symptoms of COVID-19, has had contact with someone infected, or is diagnosed with COVID-19, the following measures need to take effect.

Employees showing COVID-19 symptoms (e.g., fever of 100.4° or more, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing) that cannot be rationally explained (allergies etc.), will be sent home and **required to take a COVID-19 test**. The employee must stay home and self-quarantine for at least 14 days since symptoms first appeared. See **Test Results** section for next steps.

If an employee comes in close contact (less than 6 feet) with a confirmed COVID-19 case, employee will be sent home and required to self-quarantine for at least 14 days from their last exposure to the infectious case. **Employees must take a COVID-19 test**. See **Test Results** section for next steps.

In all situations, HR must be notified by the supervisor.



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Travel Restrictions

You might have been exposed to COVID-19 during your travels. You might feel well and not have any symptoms, but you can be contagious without symptoms and can spread the virus to others. Any staff member who travels outside of California must quarantine for 14 days upon returning to the state and before they are allowed to return to work.

If you are traveling to other countries, contact HR to determine the specific restrictions placed upon your destination.

Pay During Quarantine

Employees may use their accruals including emergency sick hours to get paid during the quarantine if no remote work is available. To determine availability of remote work, please contact HR. If no hours are available to employee and there is no appropriate work for employee to perform remotely, the quarantine time will be unpaid.

Test Results

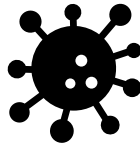
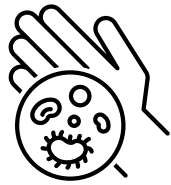
Positive Results. If the results of the test confirm that an employee has a COVID-19 infection, the employee will need to remain in quarantine until symptoms have improved including resolution of fever for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medications, and at least 14 days have passed from last known exposure or onset of symptoms. The following measures will take place upon learning of an infected employee:

1. The Health Manager will notify the local public health department.
2. The Child Development Director will contact the Child Care Licensing Regional Office.
3. HR will identify contacts by conducting the contact tracing steps.
4. Disinfection and cleaning of common areas and primary spaces where infected employee spent significant time. If possible, wait up to 24 hours before beginning cleaning and disinfection.

Negative Results. If the results of the test are negative and the employee is asymptomatic, employees may return to work after the 14-day quarantine from last known exposure and remain asymptomatic. If the employee is symptomatic and provides a medical certification that the symptoms are due to something other than COVID-19, the employee may return to work without having to complete the quarantine.



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Contact Tracing

The positive tested staff member will be asked to log all other staff or clients they were in contact with during the previous 14 days. HR and the appropriate person designated by operations will contact these individuals accordingly to advise them that they may have been exposed. Staff will be required to get tested and 'work from home' and self-quarantine for at least 14 days from last known exposure or onset of symptoms if any develop. A medical release needs to be sent to HR; however, this will not shorten 14-day quarantine.

About this Policy

The policy will remain in effect as long as it is necessary. The policy is subject to change as the situation changes and recommendations change.



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Family Services Department



Head Start Scholarship

Are you a graduating High School Senior from Napa or Solano County and planning to attend college or vocational school in 2021?

If you were once a Head Start Student, you are eligible to apply for a scholarship in the amount of \$500.00

For more information

Please contact:

Evelin Zelaya

Family Services Coordinator

(707) 235-0912

ezelaya@childstartinc.org

Deadline to apply is April 30, 2021 at 5:00 PM



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Website: www.childstartinc.org



Contact: Luis Pineda
707-333-1874



Email: lpineda@childstartinc.org

This Week Trivia Question



► Who said these words?

"I believe that this is one of the most constructive, and one of the most sensible, and also one of the most exciting programs that this nation has ever undertaken."



► Submit your answers by sending an email to:

lpineda@childstartinc.org By Thursday March 18, 2020

Last week's trivia Question answer:

When a teacher sets the tone and mood within a classroom with facial expressions body language and tone of voice this is also known as:

- a) Mood setting, b) Tone of classroom, c) Developmentally Appropriate Practice or
- d) Emotional Framework

If your answer is D) EMOTIONAL FRAMEWORK You are CORRECT!!

"A good teacher must be able to put himself in the place of those who find learning hard."

- Eliphas Levi -

