



Important Items for Schools to Consider Regarding COVID-19 Vaccinations

As our fight against COVID-19 progresses and we attempt to get back to “normal” classroom operations, the next step is for the public to become vaccinated against the virus. Currently, there are no requirements for public schools to have eligible staff members receive the vaccine, although we recommend that schools promote the benefits under the CDC’s guidelines.

Although students are not likely to be included until Phase 3, it is certainly understandable that some schools want to take an active role in getting their employees vaccinated as part of Phase 1b. However, they must be aware of the many moving parts that go along with that task. If you are planning either a curbside or drive-through vaccination clinic, some issues for consideration include:

- When to screen for contraindications and precautions
- How to store, handle, and prepare vaccines properly
- How to follow infection control practices
- How to ensure patient and health care provider safety while administering vaccines
- What measures to take if the driver is being vaccinated

Please [click here](#) for further guidance from the CDC on these items.

Based on the above, if you plan to hold a vaccination clinic onsite, it is our recommendation that the actual operation of the clinic be left to the local, state, or federal health officials operating under the guidance of the CDC requirements, or a third-party healthcare provider or pharmacy.

Another topic that we regularly receive questions on, as it pertains to COVID-19, is coverage. Before going ahead with any plans, schools are rightly concerned with making sure they are protected.

Typically, any claim for bodily injury from a staff member is excluded from General Liability coverage. However, Limited Liability coverage for vaccinating staff, and eventually students, may be available under the Limited Coverage for Professional Health Care Services (N.) under policy form 8-E-3042.

Additionally, coverage may also apply in the event nursing students at the school or college are recruited to provide vaccination services, assuming that the nursing students would be considered “volunteer workers” when they are providing vaccination services.

The above scenarios are for situations where the school is providing vaccination services to staff and potentially students. However, for schools considering becoming a vaccination center for the community or general public, please be aware your policy contains an exclusion which may apply for this type of activity. We recommend you contact your independent agent for more information.

With regard to potential liability immunity, for information on how the PREP Act may apply to your school [click here](#).

For additional information, please contact your Utica National independent agent or Educational Institutions Segment Specialists **Mike Centrone** at michael.centrone@uticanational.com or **John Acee** at john.acee@uticanational.com.

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