



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

CIRCUIT MANAGERS

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES (SGB)

CIRCULAR S3 OF 2021: COVID-19 VACCINATION ROLL-OUT IN THE BASIC EDUCATION SECTOR IN PHASE TWO OF GOVERNMENT VACCINATION PROGRAMME

Outline:

- The categories of people to be vaccinated i.e. recipients;
- What recipients need to do to be vaccinated;
- Documentation required for identification and verification at vaccination sites (these documents to be presented before receiving the vaccination).

1. CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE TO BE VACCINATED I.E. RECIPIENTS

All employees in the Basic Education sector are eligible to get a vaccine for the purposes of the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

The Basic Education sector refers to staff at National, Provincial, District and Circuit levels as well as public schools. This also includes independent schools.

At school level, the following staff members are eligible:

- Teachers appointed by the Department;
- Teachers appointed by the School Governing Bodies (SGBs);
- Teachers in the independent school sector;
- Administrative and support staff appointed by the Department;
- Non-teaching staff appointed by the Department (drivers, cleaners, janitors, security guards, etc.); and
- All hostel staff appointed by the Department.

Please note the following exclusions:

- Any person that contracted COVID-19 in the past 30 days should not be vaccinated.
- Any person that was vaccinated using another vaccine i.e. Pfizer or Johnson and Johnson (J&J) under the Sisonke programme, should not be re-vaccinated.
- Any person that vaccinated for flu in the past 14 days should not be vaccinated.

2. WHAT RECIPIENTS NEED TO DO IN ORDER TO BE VACCINATED?

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) together with the Department of Health (DoH) will facilitate the registration of recipients. Therefore, the staff in the Basic Education sector need not register on the COVID-19 Electronic Vaccination Data System (EVDS). Each District will be allocated a number of vaccination sites; schools are encouraged to make the necessary arrangements for their staff to reach these sites.

3. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR IDENTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION AT VACCINATION SITES

The following documentation will be required at a vaccination site.

- South African Identity card/ green book/ drivers' license/ South African passport/ **OR** work permit (if foreigner).
- The Medical Aid card or statements from medical aid with details of all beneficiaries covered in the Medical Aid Scheme. Officials without medical aids are still eligible to take the vaccine.

Vaccination is voluntary, however, all staff are encouraged to take the vaccine to ensure the normalisation of the sector. The Department will make further announcement in this regards. The Department highly appreciates your assistance in ensuring that all staff working in the Basic Education sector are vaccinated.

Yours sincerely



DR GC WHITTLE

ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL: BASIC EDUCATION

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