

# Massachusetts Chapter

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American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



**The Massachusetts Chapter of the  
American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP)  
Statement on Flu Vaccine Requirements for all Massachusetts School Students  
Enrolled in Child Care, Pre-School, K-12, and Post-Secondary Institutions  
August 20, 2020**

The Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP) supports the administration of all Centers for Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH)–recommended vaccines for children and adolescents in our state. In this time of the COVID-19 epidemic, it is critically important to maintain optimal health of all our families. To that end, the MCAAP supports the MDPH's requirement that, as long as they have no contraindications, all children six months of age and older, those enrolled in child care, pre-school, K-12, and post-secondary educational institutions, should receive the annual flu vaccine this 2020-2021 flu season.

In this way, through the administration of the annual influenza vaccine, all children will be protected to the best of our ability against serious influenza infections. In addition, through community immunity, others of all ages living with and near these immunized children will also be protected to the best of our ability. This will save many lives and help preserve community medical resources.

The Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP) represents more than 1,600 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, and pediatric surgical specialists across the Commonwealth. Our members are dedicated to improving the health and well-being of children by providing quality health care and advocating for them and their families. As our mission dictates, the MCAAP strictly promotes the health of children.