



STUDENT COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

ISANA is required to provide a safe learning environment at its charter school facilities. ISANA is also required to follow all federal, state, and local laws, regulations, mandates, orders, and guidance applicable to public charter schools. As mandated by the Los Angeles Unified School District (“LAUSD”), in alignment with the State’s plan to require student vaccinations, and in consideration of the findings set forth herein, ISANA hereby adopts this Student COVID-19 Vaccination Policy (“Policy”) to protect the health, safety, and well-being of our essential workers, students, and the ISANA community on our ISANA campuses.

As a condition of attending in-person instruction on an ISANA Academy charter school campus, all Eligible Students must become Fully Vaccinated by January 10, 2022.

Because public health and authorizer mandates and conditions are changing rapidly, ISANA may update this Policy at any time as needed. The Board of Directors delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to make such updates and to communicate with parents/guardians accordingly.

2. DEFINITIONS

The following terms shall be so defined for the purposes of this Policy:

“COVID-19 Vaccine” means a vaccine approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) as safe and effective against COVID-19, including any FDA-approved booster that may be required to maintain safety and efficacy. This Policy applies to COVID-19 Vaccines that are available to the public and approved by the FDA, including vaccines that have been issued Emergency Use Authorization. Currently, only the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is approved for minors 12 years of age or older.

“Eligible Student” means all students, aged 12 or older, who are enrolled at an ISANA Academy charter school.

“Fully Vaccinated” means an Eligible Student has received the first and second doses of the COVID-19 Vaccine (or, in the case of a single-dose COVID-19 Vaccine, the single required dose) and has completed the two-week period that follows to ensure maximum immunity.

3. BACKGROUND

ISANA provides the essential service of public school instruction to students in grades TK-8 at site-based charter schools. Five of the six ISANA Academy charter schools are authorized by LAUSD, and four ISANA’s



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LAUSD-authorized schools are co-located with LAUSD schools on LAUSD-owned campuses.

On September 9, 2021, the LAUSD Board of Education adopted a resolution requiring that all students 12 years of age or older be Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19 by January 10, 2022 in order to be permitted on LAUSD school campuses, unless they have a qualifying exemption.¹ This means that beginning Monday, January 10, 2022, Eligible Students who do not have proof they are Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19 will not be permitted on LAUSD campuses. Currently, LAUSD allows for medical exemptions to their COVID-19 student vaccination policy, but does not recognize religious or personal belief exemptions for student immunizations.² LAUSD's policy applies to all co-located charter schools, including ISANA.

On October 1, 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom announced that California will require the COVID-19 Vaccine for students, and directed the California Department of Public Health ("CDPH") to follow the procedures established by the Legislature to add the COVID-19 Vaccine to other vaccinations required for in-person school attendance—such as measles, mumps, and rubella—pursuant to the Health and Safety Code. State COVID-19 Vaccine requirements will be phased-in by grade span, however Governor Newsom encouraged local health jurisdictions and local education agencies to implement student vaccine requirements ahead of the statewide requirement based on their local circumstances.³

The CDPH has directed that:

“all students must have access to safe and full in-person instruction and to as much instructional time as possible. In California, the surest path to safe and full in-person instruction at the outset of the school year, as well as minimizing missed school days in an ongoing basis, is a strong emphasis on the following: vaccination for all eligible individuals to get COVID-19 rates down throughout the community....”⁴

CDPH has found that “fully vaccinated people are less likely to have asymptomatic infection and potentially less likely to transmit SARS-CoV-2 to others”⁵ and that as a result of vaccines “overall disease trends have improved dramatically.”⁶ The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has affirmed that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.⁷ CDC has found that COVID-19 vaccines not only

¹ [LAUSD Press Release Re Vaccination Requirement for LAUSD Students Aged 12 or older, dated September 9, 2021](#)

² [LAUSD COVID-19 FAQ](#)

³ [Governor's Office Student COVID-19 Vaccine Announcement, dated October 1, 2021](#)

⁴ [CDPH Bulletin Re COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-22 School Year, dated October 14, 2021](#)

⁵ [CDPH Bulletin Re: COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People, dated August 24, 2021](#)

⁶ [CDPH Bulletin Re: Travel Advisory, dated April 2, 2021](#)

⁷ [CDC Bulletin Re Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines, dated September 13, 2021](#)

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help protect students from getting COVID-19, but also help keep students from getting seriously ill even if they do get COVID-19.⁸

In Los Angeles as of October 6, 2021, the case rate for unvaccinated children aged 12-17 years is almost 7 times higher than the case rate for vaccinated children of the same age group, according to the Los Angeles Department of Public Health (“LADPH”) TK-12 School COVID-19 Data Dashboard. LADPH has urged TK-12 schools to adopt policies that normalize, promote, and facilitate vaccination for all eligible persons on campus.⁹

ISANA is committed to a safe and meaningful learning and work environment for our students, staff, and ISANA community. In addition to this Policy, ISANA has implemented, and will continue to adjust as necessary, various health and safety protocols including universal masking indoors, comprehensive baseline and asymptomatic testing of students and staff, a vaccine mandate for all staff that is aligned to LAUSD’s mandate and the State order for TK-12 workers, quarantine/isolation protocols, physical distancing, and disinfection protocols.

4. COVID-19 VACCINATION

As a condition of attending in-person instruction on an ISANA Academy charter school campus, all Eligible Students must become Fully Vaccinated by January 10, 2022.

In order to meet this deadline, Eligible Students who are 12 years old as of November 21, 2021, will be requested to get their first dose by no later than November 21, 2021 and their second dose by no later than December 19, 2021.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to visit California’s MyTurn website for more information about the COVID-19 Vaccine, locations of walk-in clinics, and opportunities to book an appointment for the COVID-19 Vaccine: <https://myturn.ca.gov/>. We also encourage you to speak with your family pediatrician or other healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.

ISANA students who turn 12 after November 21, 2021 will be Eligible Students as of their 12th birthday and must receive their first COVID-19 Vaccine dose no later than 30 days after their 12th birthday and their second vaccine dose (if applicable) no later than 8 weeks after their 12th birthday. For Students who enroll

⁸ [CDC COVID-19 Vaccine for Children and Teens Website](#)

⁹ [LA DPH Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools: Appendix T1](#)



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in an ISANA Academy charter school after January 10, 2022 and are not vaccinated, the Student will be conditionally enrolled and must receive their first COVID-19 Vaccine dose no later than 30 days after their enrollment date and their second vaccine dose (if applicable) no later than 8 weeks after their enrollment date. Students may also be conditionally admitted if they are in one of these groups: foster youth, homeless, migrant, military family, or has an IEP.

Under LAUSD requirements, Eligible Students who are Fully Vaccinated will still be subject to baseline and periodic COVID-19 testing at least through the end of the Fall 2021 semester.

Should an Eligible Student have a reaction to the COVID-19 Vaccine requiring the Student to miss school, the Student may take excused absences with the ability to make up their schoolwork for full credit. Most common reactions to the vaccine are mild and include redness/swelling at the vaccine site, fever, and muscle aches/body aches. Most symptoms resolve within 48-72 hours.

5. VERIFYING VACCINATION STATUS

ISANA will request each Eligible Student's vaccination status. Each Eligible Student's status as Fully Vaccinated must be documented by January 10, 2022 or the Student may not enter school campus.

ISANA reserves the right to request proof of any booster for COVID-19, if applicable.

Per CDPH's Guidance for Vaccine Records Guidelines & Standards, only the following may be used as proof that an Eligible Student is Fully Vaccinated:

COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (issued by the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control & Prevention or WHO Yellow Card) which includes name of person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided and date last dose administered); OR

- a photo of a Vaccination Record Card as a separate document; OR
- a photo of the individual's Vaccination Record Card stored on a phone or electronic device; OR
- documentation of COVID-19 vaccination from a health care provider; OR
- digital record that includes a QR code that when scanned by a SMART Health Card reader displays to the reader client name, date of birth, vaccine dates and vaccine type.

Eligible Students must provide ISANA with documentation showing that the Eligible Student is Fully Vaccinated either by providing one of the above documents in-person or electronically to the main office. Eligible Students will not be required to carry proof that they are Fully Vaccinated.

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Eligible Students' vaccination status will be maintained as a confidential student record. However, these records may be made available, upon request, to the local public health department for purposes of an investigation, and to ISANA's charter authorizers or other regulators, as may be required by applicable law.

6. REQUESTS FOR EXEMPTIONS

Eligible Students unable to comply with this Policy may be entitled to an exemption (e.g., for medical reasons). Please note that LAUSD's policy does not recognize religious or personal belief exemptions for student immunizations. Parent/guardians who believe their Eligible Student may be entitled to an exemption should contact the Principal. The parent/guardian will need to fill out an exemption form and may be required to provide supporting documentation for the requested exemption. ISANA does not guarantee approval of any exemption request, and will approve or deny requests on a case-by-case basis.

7. NONCOMPLIANCE

Eligible Students who refuse to comply with this Policy and who are not eligible for an exemption will be offered placement in ISANA's Independent Study program to the extent allowable by law, until the Student comes into compliance with this Policy. However, please note that as a public charter school, ISANA is limited to a small number of students in its independent study program in order to receive public funding. For this reason, it is important for the entire ISANA school community to work together to ensure all Eligible Students are vaccinated.

8. UPDATES

As public health and legal guidance regarding COVID-19 Vaccines evolves, ISANA reserves the right to revise this Policy. Upon any material revision to this Policy, ISANA will provide notice to families. This Policy shall be implemented in a manner that is consistent with current federal, state, and local law.

Should you have any questions regarding this Policy, you may contact the Principal.