



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Stop Flu at School clinic information now available

*Vaccination consent forms due October 25, 2017*

HONOLULU – The list of schools participating in this year’s school-located flu vaccination program, Stop Flu at School, is available on the Hawaii Department of Health’s (DOH) website at <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/about-us/programs/stop-flu-at-school/>. DOH will hold flu vaccination clinics in 167 public schools statewide from Nov. 1 through Dec. 21, 2017.

To sign up for the free flu shots available to their children, parents or guardians should complete and sign provided consent forms, and return them to schools by the deadline, **Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2017**.

Information packets and vaccination consent forms will be distributed to parents through participating schools in early October. A fillable, electronic version of the consent form can be found online at <https://vaxonlinereg.doh.hawaii.gov>, and non-English translations of the consent form packet are available at <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/about-us/programs/stop-flu-at-school/>.

This marks the eleventh year of the Stop Flu at School program. Since 2007, nearly 600,000 flu vaccinations have been administered at more than 300 public, private, and charter schools statewide through this voluntary program. The annual program, which provides flu vaccinations to school-age children at no cost to Hawaii families, is supported by federal funds and private contributions, resulting in a massive statewide coordination effort involving volunteers and local partnerships. Program costs have previously totaled approximately \$2 million per year.

This year, the department anticipates vaccinating 35,000 public school students through the program. Flu vaccination of students at school is an effective strategy for reducing the spread of influenza in our communities and protecting those at risk of serious illness.

For more information about Stop Flu at School, visit <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/about-us/programs/stop-flu-at-school/> or call Aloha United Way’s information and referral service at 2-1-1.

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### Get vaccinated

Influenza or "flu" can cause serious illness. Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and your family.



### Cover your cough or sneeze

Cover your mouth and nose with your sleeve or a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Toss your used tissue in the waste basket and wash your hands.



# Fight the Flu

It starts with you



### Wash your hands

Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.



### Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth

If you touch surfaces with the flu virus, you can get the flu by touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.



### Stay home if you are sick

Flu viruses go wherever you go when you are infected. Stay at home and check with your healthcare provider when needed.



For more information, call 2-1-1 or visit [www.hawaii.gov/health](http://www.hawaii.gov/health)

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