



Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

Montachusett Reg. Vocational Technical School
1050 Westminster Street
Fitchburg, Massachusetts 01420-4696

978-345-9200 (Fitchburg Calling Area)
978-632-8889 (Gardner Calling Area)

INFLUENZA VACCINE REQUIREMENT FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Dear Monty Tech Parent/Guardian:

As many families may be aware, on August 19, 2020, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) announced a requirement that, *“influenza immunization will be required for all children 6 months of age or older who are attending Massachusetts child care, pre-school, kindergarten, K-12, and colleges and universities.”* Further, the announcement stated, *“Students will be expected to have received a flu vaccine by December 31, 2020 for the 2020-2021 influenza season, unless either a medical or religious exemption is provided...Elementary and secondary students in districts and schools that are using a remote education model are not exempt.”*

Therefore, in light of this state mandated requirement, all Monty Tech students must receive their influenza vaccine by December 31, 2020 or risk being excluded from school. We ask that all families please forward documentation of administration of the vaccine directly to the Nursing Office. Such documentation from your physician may include an updated immunization record or a physician’s note. If you attend a pharmacy or walk-in clinic for the vaccine, please be sure that you are provided with a document that includes the student’s name, date of birth, type of immunization and signature from a health care provider.

If your child has a medical issue that prevents them from receiving the vaccine, please have your physician forward a note documenting the contraindication. If your child has religious exemptions, please forward documentation. These documents may be faxed directly to the Nursing Office at 978-345-2217 or emailed to our nurse leader at reppucci-lori@montytech.net.

MDPH firmly stated in their initial announcement that *“The new vaccine requirement is an important step to reduce flu-related illness and the overall impact of respiratory illness during the COVID-19 pandemic.”* The vaccine reduces the risk of getting sick with influenza, reduces the severity of disease if one does get sick, and prevents the spread of influenza to others. During the COVID-19 pandemic, influenza vaccine will be especially critical in protecting vulnerable populations from severe illness and decreasing the overall burden on the health care system.

We appreciate all families’ timely response to this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our Nursing Office at 978-345-9200 ext. 5219.

Sincerely,

Thomas Browne
Principal