



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

October 28, 2020

AL TSA: NH #2020-077
AL TSA: ALF #2020-051
AL TSA: AFH #2020-053
AL TSA: CCRSS #2020-039
AL TSA: ICF/IID #2020-041
AL TSA: ESF #2020-040

FLU VACCINE NOW AVAILABLE TO UNINSURED ADULTS AT NO COST

Dear Provider-Superintendent-Administrator:

The Department of Health (DOH) is collaborating with Safeway Inc. and Albertsons Companies LLC to offer no-cost influenza (flu) vaccination for uninsured adults over the age of 18 to help prevent flu illness during the COVID-19 pandemic. Health officials are concerned that the presence of both viruses could put more people in the hospital and strain Washington's health care system. [View the DOH news release for full details.](#)

Everyone 6 months and older needs a new flu vaccine every year. Young children, pregnant women, [people with underlying health conditions](#), and those aged 65 and older are at high risk of complications from flu illness. Flu is a highly contagious disease that can cause mild to severe illness, can lead to hospitalization, and can even be fatal – even in healthy young adults. Getting a flu vaccine reduces your chances of getting the flu but does not prevent other respiratory infections.

Adults who have insurance should also get vaccinated now. Flu vaccine for those age 19 and older is covered by most insurance companies and by Medicare and Apple Health (Medicaid). Washington also provides flu vaccine, and all recommended vaccines, at no cost to everyone under the age of 19.

For help finding a health care provider or vaccine location, and to learn more about flu, visit www.KnockOutFlu.org

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"