



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
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PHIL MURPHY  
*Governor*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

CHRISTINE NORBUT BEYER, MSW  
*Commissioner*

May 17, 2021

Dear Resource Parent(s),

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) recently issued guidance and notification regarding the requirement for resource parents/families to receive approval from DCF's Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P) **prior** to scheduling a COVID-19 vaccination for youth ages 16-18. With this letter, DCF is updating its guidance to include COVID-19 vaccinations for children ages 12-15, in response to the US Food and Drug Administration's May 10 determination to expand the emergency use of Pfizer-BioNTech for this population.

As a reminder, if a minor youth, age 12 or older, in CP&P care and custody requests to obtain the COVID-19, CP&P will attempt to obtain consent from the youth's parent(s) or, potentially notice the court and all counsel to obtain the necessary approvals.

If you have any questions about this, please feel free to reach out to your resource worker or CP&P local office staff. (Note: Information regarding child and adolescent immunizations is outlined in the following DCP&P policies: Policy and Procedures Manual, VA1 § 1400 and Policy and Procedures Manual, IIC9 § 100.)

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carmen Diaz-Petti, LCSW'.

Carmen Diaz-Petti, LCSW  
CP&P Assistant Commissioner  
Department of Children and Families