



## OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR

Knox County Health Department, 140 Dameron Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917 – 6413

September 28, 2011

Dear Parent,

For the seventh consecutive year, Knox County Health Department (KCHD) will be offering **FREE** Influenza vaccinations through school-located vaccination clinics to **ALL** children ages 6 months to 19 years of age living in Knox County. Each year, more than 47 percent of the eligible children in Knox County receive influenza vaccine through this program, which has created a healthier community and helped to keep our children in school.

Striving to simplify the delivery of this important program, we are excited to offer parents the ability to **complete and digitally sign the consent form entirely online**, even from your smart phone. Simply go to:

[www.zippslip.com](http://www.zippslip.com)

click on the "Get Started" button...

or, scan with your smartphone!

It only takes a few minutes, and offers you the ability to receive schedule updates and confirmations privately throughout the campaign if you wish, as well as provide notes to clinic staff, all without paper. This new feature should not only be a time-saver for parents, but also enables KCHD staff to more efficiently manage this complex program. Your participation in the online process is greatly appreciated.

Of course if you prefer, you may complete the enclosed paper form as before, making sure you fill it out completely, sign it, and return it to your child's teacher this week. **As always, we will not vaccinate your child unless we have processed a fully executed consent**, either online or on paper.

This year's clinics will be conducted between Oct. 24 and Nov. 18. Please check KCHD's or your school's website for the date and time of your school's vaccination clinic. If your child misses his or her school's clinic date, you may take him or her to any health department [location](#) for a free influenza vaccine.

Children under the age of nine who fall into **one** of the following categories will need two (2) doses of influenza vaccine separated by at least 28 days:

1. Have not previously received any influenza vaccine.
2. Received their first influenza vaccine during the 2010-2011 flu season but only received one dose.
3. Only received one dose of the pandemic 2009 influenza (also known as H1N1) vaccine; this strain was one of the three strains in the 2010-2011 influenza vaccine.

Please note: Due to decreased funding, there may only be one phase of clinics in the schools this year. This means that children who need a second dose will have to go elsewhere for their second dose.

If you have questions about influenza vaccination, we encourage you to ask your school nurse, call your doctor's office, or go to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) or [http://knoxcounty.org/health/flumist\\_vaccination/index.php](http://knoxcounty.org/health/flumist_vaccination/index.php).

Knox County Health Department strongly advocates influenza vaccinations to prevent spread of the disease. Your input on KCHD's programs is important to us. Please include your comments either by using the back of the paper consent form or at [www.knox.ZippSlip.com](http://www.knox.ZippSlip.com).

Sincerely,

Martha Buchanan, MD  
Director and Public Health Officer

John Lott, RN, MS  
Director of Clinical Services



Scan this QR code to go directly to the online consent page.