



April 26, 2021

**TO: Parents or guardians of students 16 or older who attend ACE Leadership High School**

Were you aware that your student age 16 or older is currently eligible for a potentially life-saving COVID-19 vaccine?

Effective April 5, the New Mexico Department of Health expanded eligibility to every New Mexican 16 and older, which is Phase 2 of the state's phased vaccine rollout plan.

That means almost 1.7 million New Mexicans are now eligible; however, only about 800,000 have taken the first step by registering to receive a vaccine through [vaccinenm.org](https://vaccinenm.org), and only 18,000 of those are 16- to 18-year-olds.

This matters. Like younger children, teens can suffer a rare but deadly side effect from the virus. And teens whose symptoms are mild could infect their loved ones without knowing. Finally, getting everyone eligible vaccinated will help us reach herd immunity and end this pandemic.

Please: Register your 16- to 18-year-old now. Go to [vaccinenm.org](https://vaccinenm.org) to create a profile. Once that is complete, you will receive a confirmation code that will allow your student to accept a vaccine invitation when one becomes available.

DOH will continue to prioritize vaccine invitations for healthcare workers, New Mexicans 75 years and older, and New Mexicans 60 years and older with chronic conditions. However, the department opened Phase 2 because providers in some parts of the state are no longer able to fill appointments within Phases 1A, 1B, and 1C.

Additionally, New Mexico is expecting to receive a meaningful increase in vaccine supply over the coming weeks, including significant increases in the one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

We want all our eligible students to be ready to roll up their sleeves and get this protection as soon as possible.

Thank you for helping get New Mexico vaccinated.

Sincerely,

The ACE Leadership High School Lead Team

Justin Trager, Principal   Ralph Gonzales, Chief Operations Officer/Student Support Director  
and Ryan DeHoyos, Community Engagement Director