John Bel Edwards
GOVERNOR

Dr. Courtney Phillips
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

DATE: December 10, 2021

TO: COVID-19 Vaccination Providers and all other HAN recipients

FROM: Louisiana Department of Health

SUBJECT: **16-and-17-Year-Olds Now Eligible for a Booster Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine**

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) announces that, effective immediately, individuals 16 and 17 years old are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose. To receive the booster dose (0.3 mL), individuals must be at least six months past their Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine series completion date.

CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky stated on Thursday, December 10, 2021, "CDC is strengthening its booster recommendations and encouraging everyone 16 and older to receive a booster shot. Although we don't have all the answers on the Omicron variant, initial data suggests COVID-19 boosters help broaden and strengthen the protection against Omicron and other variants. We know that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective, and I strongly encourage adolescents ages 16 and 17 to get their booster."

At this time, only the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is authorized for those aged 16 and 17.

Updated FDA Letter of Authorization: https://www.fda.gov/media/150386/download

Updated FDA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers: https://www.fda.gov/media/153713/download

Updated FDA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers: https://www.fda.gov/media/153716/download

As always, LDH reminds providers to report possible vaccine-related adverse events to the FDA/CDC Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) at https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html or by calling 1-800-822-7967. Any possible severe adverse events (those resulting in hospitalization, death, or persistent disability) should be immediately reported to the Office Public Health (OPH) Infectious Disease/Epidemiology Hotline at 1-800-256-2748.

If you have vaccine related questions, please contact la.immunization@la.gov