



New Mexico  
Hospital Association

*In this advisory:*

NMDOH Interim  
Guidance:

Recommendations  
for School (K-12)  
Responses to  
Influenza during  
the 2009-2010  
School Year

# SPECIAL ADVISORY

## H1N1 Flu NMDOH Recommendations No Doctor's Note Needed

Hospitals, clinics, and other providers treating children with flu-like illness are experiencing delays due to the requests from parents and guardians for a doctor's clearance to return to school.

Mary M. Ramos, MD, MPH, FAAP, School Health Officer, Office of School and Adolescent Health, and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, University of New Mexico, is recommending that schools **consider revising** their policies this flu season so that students who are absent due to a flu-like illness would **need only a parent or guardian** note and **NOT a physician's** note to return to school.

Please refer to the paragraph **Review of School Policies** in the attached Interim Guidance from the New Mexico Department of Health.

**The decision is ultimately up to each school district.**

Our information is that APS **does not** require a doctor's note, according to Cindy Greenburg, Nursing Services Coordinator at APS.

**[Sign up for CDC Alerts](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/updates.htm)**

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**[Sign up for New Mexico Health Alert Notifications](http://nmhealth.org/H1N1/han.shtml)**

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**Epidemiology and Response Division  
505-827-0006**