The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is the agency responsible for overseeing the decision-making and distribution related to vaccinations in Texas. Please visit its COVID-19 Vaccine Information webpage for the most up-to-date COVID-19 vaccination information. For general COVID-19 vaccine information, please visit the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Vaccines webpage.

TEA is providing this FAQ as a resource to school systems that are interested in the impact the vaccine might have on their respective school systems.

1. **When will teachers be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine?**
   
   Please see the Department of State Health Services School and Child Care Personnel Now Eligible To Be Vaccinated release for more information.

2. **I am eligible to receive the vaccine, is there a cost associated with obtaining the vaccine?**
   
   No. The recipient of the vaccine will not be required to pay any out-of-pocket expenses to obtain the vaccine. Please see the Center for Disease Control (CDC) FAQ related to paying for the COVID-19 vaccine for more general information.

3. **Can a school district require an eligible educator to receive the vaccine?**
   
   The current COVID-19 vaccination process will be voluntary and left up to each individual to determine if it is the right course of action for that individual to take. The current COVID-19 vaccines were authorized under the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA); therefore vaccination cannot be required by employers. Once a vaccine is formally approved by the FDA, employers may choose to require employees to obtain that vaccine.

   This guidance reflects the position of DSHS and is provided by TEA solely as an information resource for school districts and open-enrollment charter schools. A school district or open-enrollment charter school should confer with its own legal counsel regarding any questions it may have regarding this guidance.

4. **Will schools be used as vaccination administration sites? Updated March 11, 2021**
   
   The COVID-19 vaccine will be distributed to qualifying facilities, organizations, and healthcare providers licensed to possess or administer vaccines or provide vaccination services. School systems should review How to Become a Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Provider if they are interested in applying to become a COVID-19 vaccination provider.
Additionally, the Department has a number of resources for COVID-19 Vaccine Provider or those interested in becoming one:

- DSHS Website: Information for COVID-19 Vaccination Providers
- DSHS Document: COVID-19 Vaccine Provider FAQs