

Dear Governors,

I am writing to you as we approach the end of the academic year and many college and university students prepare to return home for the summer.

Here in Connecticut, we had been planning to offer the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine to college students prior to their departure from campuses. The combined effect of the reduction in the supply of the J&J vaccine with the overall pause on its administration has disrupted these plans and forced us to change approach.

Given how soon the end of the semester is, and the current overall state of vaccine supply, we are unlikely to be able to offer both doses of an mRNA vaccines to all our students in higher education prior to the end of the semester. However, we do not want to delay vaccine access for this population.

As a result, Connecticut will seek to offer, at a minimum, a first dose of an mRNA vaccine to all higher education students in Connecticut prior to the end of the semester. For students attending school in Connecticut from outside our State, this means they will need to receive their second dose upon returning home.

I urge all Governors to put in place plans to vaccinate college students prior to the end of the Spring semester as vaccine supply allows, and to offer second doses to students studying out of state when they return home. Connecticut will offer second doses of mRNA vaccines to any students who return to Connecticut this summer if they received their first doses out of State.

Thank you for everything you are doing to protect your communities and the American people.

Ned Lamont