

Announcement

December 19, 2022

FOR ELDERS

1. **Vaccination Requirement for Those Attending Theocratic Schools:** Only individuals who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 will be eligible to attend theocratic schools in person. Such schools include the Pioneer Service School, the Kingdom Ministry School, the School for Congregation Elders, and the School for Kingdom Evangelizers. Additionally, health officials indicate that staying up-to-date with the COVID-19 vaccine booster shots provides added protection.

2. For the Kingdom Ministry School, the School for Congregation Elders, and the School for Kingdom Evangelizers, there will be no provision for students to tie in via videoconference. Elders who cannot attend a Kingdom Ministry School in person because of illness, infirmity, or other circumstances may be updated orally by fellow elders on the information presented at the school.

3. For the Pioneer Service School, there will be no general provision for students to tie in to classes via videoconference. In rare cases, the circuit overseer may grant an exception for a pioneer with unusual circumstances, such as advanced age or severe illness. Pioneers who are not vaccinated or who do not feel comfortable attending in-person classes may be in a position to attend a class at a later date.

4. A new document entitled *Safety Precautions for Attending Theocratic Schools* (S-294) will soon be made available in the “Forms” section of the “Documents” tab on JW Hub. Each elder should carefully review the document prior to the upcoming Kingdom Ministry School.

FOR COORDINATORS OF THE BODIES OF ELDERS

1. **2022 Kingdom Ministry School:** Please check with each elder in the congregation who plans to attend the Kingdom Ministry School to confirm that he is fully vaccinated.