

President Biden Urges More North Carolinians to Get Vaccinated + Get Vaccinated to Have a Shot at \$1M



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COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) NC UPDATE

June 25, 2021

[President Biden Urges More North Carolinians to Get the COVID Vaccine](#)

Yesterday, President Biden [visited](#) the Green Road Community Center in Raleigh to urge North Carolinians who haven't been vaccinated yet to go get their shots, saying that vaccination is the best way to protect themselves from COVID-19 and ensure a return to life as normal.

Governor Cooper joined Biden Thursday and introduced him to the crowd.

"During this pandemic we used science and data to make the hard decisions and with our larger states, North Carolina is among the lowest in deaths and job losses per capita," Cooper said. "That's a good thing. That means we've done things right."

Read more about the visit, and see videos, in a recent [article](#) from the News and Observer.

[Get Vaccinated to Have a Shot at \\$1M](#)



You still have a shot to win \$1 Million as part of the [Your Shot At \\$1 Million Summer Cash Drawings](#).

The next three drawings will occur on July 7, July 21 and Aug. 4. New entries will close at midnight on the Sunday prior to the Wednesday drawing. The sooner you get vaccinated, the more chances you have to win.

Those who are vaccinated June 10 and later will be entered twice for each drawing, increasing the chance of winning for the newly vaccinated.

The drawings are part of the state's [Bringing Summer Back](#) get-out-the-vaccine campaign to encourage North Carolinians to get a COVID-19 vaccination as soon as they can. The vaccines have been thoroughly tested and found to be safe and effective for anyone 12 and older.

North Carolinians 18 and over who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine will be automatically entered into the drawings for a chance to win a \$1 million cash prize.

Youth between the ages of 12 and 17 who have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine will be automatically entered into the drawings to win \$125,000 toward post-secondary education. The \$125,000 can be used at any post-secondary institution and are awarded by funding a savings account in the NC 529 Plan.

Some eligibility restrictions may apply. See the [official rules](#) for details.

Learn more at [SummerVaxCash.com](#). For more information about COVID-19 vaccines and to find a vaccine location near you, visit [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](#) or call 1-888-675-4567.

Increased COVID Cases in Bladen County Due to Low Vaccination Rates

Bladen County, which has a vaccination rate of only 33%, is experiencing [critical viral spread](#) and increases in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. Today's COVID-19 [County Alert System](#) report shows the county is now red. State health officials urge people to get vaccinated now to protect themselves and the community from serious illness and virus-related hospitalization and death.

"What's happening in Bladen County is preventable," said NCDHHS Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D. "More than 99% of new COVID-19 cases in North Carolina are in people who are not fully vaccinated. Vaccines are working."

Areas with low vaccination rates have seen increased COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths. In the past three weeks, nearly 60% of new cases in Bladen County have been associated with a COVID-19 cluster in one zip code, the Bladenboro community.

NCDHHS and the Bladen County Health Department are working together to address the Bladenboro community cluster and increase [vaccination rates](#). The county health department continues to provide opportunities for people to get vaccinated, get tested for COVID-19 and offer education on the importance of disease prevention.

[COVID-19 FAQ: Does My Whole Family Need to be Vaccinated?](#)



NCDHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen [discusses](#) how your entire family needs to be vaccinated to stop the spread of COVID-19. For more videos that answer frequently asked questions about vaccines, go to the [NCDHHS YouTube channel](#).

Summer Card Pilot Program Expanding to More Counties



NCDHHS is [expanding](#) the number of locations providing \$25 Summer Cards to offset the time and transportation costs of getting vaccinated. Beginning this week, participating vaccination sites in more than 44 counties will offer the cards to anyone 18 and older who gets their first dose of a [COVID-19 vaccine](#) — or drives someone to their vaccination.

The expansion builds on the success of the [pilot program launched in May](#) in 10 counties (Mecklenburg, Guilford, Rowan, Rockingham, Alamance, Cabarrus, Chatham, Onslow, Scotland and Vance), which distributed 1,700 Summer Cards to vaccine recipients and more than 700 cards to drivers.

"Some people need help covering the cost of taking time away from work and for transportation, and the Summer Cards are one way to help. What's really exciting is that we saw some people who received their first dose at a Summer Card event then drove others to help them get their vaccine," said NCDHHS Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D.

The Summer Card is just one of a few incentives offered this summer. The Summer Cash and Cash 4 College drawings are another way North Carolinians who get vaccinated are rewarded. Learn more about the Summer Card and Summer Cash Drawings at SummerVaxCash.com

COVID-19 Testing

You don't have to wonder if it's allergies, a cold, or COVID-19. Be sure and get tested. Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, has been around people outside of their

household or thinks they have been exposed to the virus should get [tested](#).

Getting a test has never been easier! North Carolina has upcoming no-cost community testing events scheduled throughout the state, including sites that offer rapid testing. For an up-to-date list of events, visit the [No-Cost Testing Events](#) webpage. For more details about a specific event, call ahead before you go for a test.

NCDHHS also [expanded](#) the availability of its at-home COVID-19 test collection. All North Carolina residents may request a COVID-19 PCR Test Home Collection Kit shipped overnight directly to their homes at no cost.

COVID-19 testing is also provided at some local health departments, doctor and clinician offices, hospitals and clinics, many pharmacy sites and retail outlets, and other community locations. You can find testing sites by using the [Find My Testing Place](#) tool online.



NCDHHS: COVID-19 Vaccine Communications Toolkit

You can help people in your community find their spot and take their shot. NCDHHS has created a [one-stop shop](#) for ready-made materials to help you communicate about safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines.

Anyone who is sharing information about the COVID-19 vaccine with their community can use and adapt the [resources](#) to build confidence in the COVID-19 vaccines.

The toolkit is updated frequently with social media posts, graphics and other materials. It is also available in [Spanish](#).

[Get the Latest Information](#)

- Visit the [NCDHHS COVID-19 website](#) for information, a [data dashboard](#), [updates](#), [live briefings](#) and more.
- Go to [North Carolina's COVID-19 Information Hub](#) for resources, information and assistance across state government, including the latest [news releases](#).
- Check out [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](#) to learn more about [finding your spot](#) to get your shot, [videos](#) about the COVID-19 vaccine, and other resources.

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- Follow NCDHHS on [social media](#) for advance notice of press briefings and a recap.



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