

Moderna, Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Booster Shots Now Available + Information About COVID Vaccines for Children Ages 5-11



From NCDHHS Communications <news@dhhs.nc.gov>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
Date 2021-10-22 14:15

[View this email in your browser](#)

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) NC UPDATE

Oct. 22, 2021

[Moderna, Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Booster Shots Now Available](#)



The Food and Drug Administration [has authorized, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now recommends](#), Moderna and Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 booster shots to help strengthen and extend protections against COVID-19 infections.

The Moderna COVID-19 booster shot is recommended for individuals who received their second dose at least six months ago and who are at high risk for severe illness or exposure based on their age, profession, living setting or health conditions. The Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 booster shot is recommended for individuals ages 18 and older who were vaccinated with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two months ago.

Pfizer-BioNTech (COMINARTY) booster shots have been available since Sept. 24 for North Carolinians at high risk for serious illness or exposure and who received their second dose at least six months ago.

Additionally, individuals are now able to receive any brand of the COVID-19 vaccine for their booster shot. Limited preliminary evidence suggests that booster doses of one of the two mRNA vaccines – Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech – more effectively raise antibody levels than a booster dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Read more in a [NCDHHS news release](#).

[COVID Vaccines for Children Ages 5-11](#)



Children ages 5-11 may soon have a spot to take their shot. Children are vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus, just like everyone else, and some infected children are experiencing long-term side effects of COVID-19.

With the most recent surge, pediatric cases of COVID-19 rose by about 240 percent in the U.S., showing the need to protect children with a safe and effective vaccine. Getting school-age kids vaccinated will help them to be safe in the classroom, play sports, attend events, be with friends and support their mental health.

What's next for kids 5-11:

- **Oct. 26, 2021** - The FDA is reviewing the safety and effectiveness data on vaccines for children ages 5-11. Using scientific evidence, they will make a recommendation about Pfizer's application for an Emergency Use Authorization.
- **Nov. 3, 2021** – The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will do another independent and thorough review of the safety and effectiveness data. They will then make a recommendation to the CDC on the use of COVID-19 vaccines in younger children. The FDA must issue an Emergency Use Authorization and the ACIP must issue guidance before any vaccines are given in the state.
- **Nov. 5, 2021** – This is the earliest date the state of North Carolina would begin to administer the COVID-19 vaccines with the appropriate dosage for children.

DHHS will not make any recommendations on child vaccination until this process is completed. Go to the [NCDHHS COVID-19 website](#) for more information on this process and to sign-up to receive updates on the COVID vaccine for this age group.

Long-Term Care Facility Data Show Dramatic Impact of COVID Vaccines

DON'T WAIT TO VACCINATE.

Find a vaccine location near you at [MySpot.nc.gov](#) or call 888-675-4567.

YOU HAVE A **SPOT.** TAKE YOUR **SHOT.**

As COVID-19 cases surged this summer fueled by the Delta variant, hospitalizations and deaths among residents in North Carolina long-term care facilities were [significantly lower](#) than during the winter surge.

The decrease in cases and severe illness can be attributed to [vaccination](#) for residents and staff of long-term care facilities and to the work done by long-term care providers to implement measures to protect staff and residents from COVID-19.

COVID-19 [vaccines](#) offer significant protection against serious illness, hospitalization and death. People who are not fully vaccinated are [20 times](#) more likely to die from COVID-19 than people who are fully vaccinated.

Free COVID-19 vaccines are widely available across the state to anyone 12 and older. To get a vaccine near you, [visit MySpot.nc.gov](https://www.myspot.nc.gov) or call 888-675-4567. You can also text your zip code to 438829 to find vaccine locations near you.

You can also protect yourself, your family and those around you this flu season by [getting your flu shot](#). COVID-19 vaccines may be administered at the same time as other vaccines, including the flu vaccine. Flu vaccinations are available at hospitals, pharmacies, private medical offices, some federally qualified health care centers and local health departments.

[Take Precautions this Halloween and Have Fun!](#)



In a [new resource](#) from the Public Health Communications Collaborative, you'll find easy tips to stay safe and help avoid a COVID-19 scare. Here's what trick-or-treaters, their friends and family, and others in the community should remember this Halloween:

1. **Do** incorporate a cloth or surgical mask into your costume, and **don't** use a costume mask as a substitute for a cloth or surgical mask.
2. **Outdoors** is safer than **indoors**, and stay home if you're feeling sick. Trick-or-treat in small groups outdoors or enjoy other outdoors activities, and avoid crowded indoor parties.
3. **Wash your hands** before eating candy.
4. Track **local** virus transmission rates: take extra precautions where rates are high.

Get **vaccinated**: Adults and children age 12 and older should get a COVID-19 vaccine, and everyone should get a flu shot.

[NC Pharmacists Bring COVID Shots to Farm Workers, Families](#)



Independent pharmacists Jin Lee and Alfred Catolico of DJ's Pharmacy in Cary, NC, vaccinate migrant worker communities against COVID-19 at an Episcopal Farm Worker Ministry vaccination event in Dunn, NC, on Sept. 3, 2021. [Read more.](#)

[COVID-19 Testing](#)

Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19 or has been exposed to the virus should get tested as soon as possible. To find a testing site near you, visit [ncdhhs.gov/GetTested](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/GetTested).

People who are not experiencing serious symptoms should not go to the emergency department for routine COVID-19 testing. People should seek medical attention

immediately for serious symptoms such as trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, or bluish lips or face.

For an up-to-date list of no-cost community testing events, visit the [No-Cost Testing Events](#) webpage. Additionally, all North Carolinians can request a free at-home COVID-19 testing kit. [Learn more.](#)

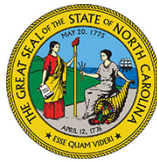
[Get the Latest Information](#)

- Visit the [NCDHHS COVID-19 website](#) for information, a [data dashboard](#), [updates](#), [live briefings](#), the [latest guidance](#) 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.
- Follow NCDHHS on [social media](#).



You're receiving this email because you subscribed to receive updates from the NC Department of Health and Human Services

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Subscription Preferences](#)



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

Roy Cooper, Governor | Dr. Mandy Cohen, Secretary
Amy Dominello Braun, Interim Communications Director

Our mailing address is: NCDHHS, 2001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699

This email was sent to sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org
why did I get this? [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
NC DHHS · 2001 Mail Service Ctr · Raleigh, NC 27699-2000 · USA