Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccines for Teachers, School Staff, and Childcare Workers

Updated Nov. 17, 2021

NOTICE: CDC now recommends that children between the ages of 5 and 11 years receive the Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine. Learn more about vaccines for children and teens.

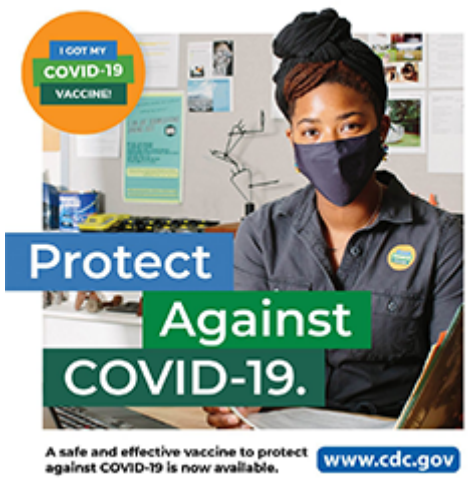
What Teachers, School Staff, and Childcare Workers Need to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines

Everyone 5 years of age and older is now eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccination. Get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can. Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic.

Tips for How to Get a COVID-19 Vaccine

If you have not been vaccinated against COVID-19, you can:

- Visit Vaccines.gov to find out where vaccines are available in your community.
- Look at your state health department's website to find additional vaccination providers in your area.



Find a COVID-19 vaccine: Search vaccines.gov, text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you.

Information about COVID-19 Vaccines for Teachers, School Staff, and Childcare Workers

You can help protect yourself and the people around you by getting a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can.

- Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.
- A COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.
- Depending on the kind of COVID-19 vaccine you get, you might need a second shot 3 or 4 weeks after your first shot.

Learn more about who is eligible for a COVID-19 booster shot.

After getting vaccinated, some people have side effects. Common side effects include:

- Pain, redness, or swelling where you get your shot

- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Fever
- Nausea

These are normal signs that your body is building protection against COVID-19. Learn more about possible side effects and what to expect after getting your COVID-19 vaccination.

Safe, Easy, Free, and Nearby COVID-19 Vaccination

The federal government is providing the vaccine **free of charge** to all people living in the U.S., regardless of their immigration or health insurance status.

COVID-19 Vaccines Are Free

Visit CDC's Schools and Child Care Programs page for more information on school reopening and strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit for School Settings and Childcare Programs

Information and materials for school districts, administrators, teachers, school staff, and other education and childcare professionals, to help promote COVID-19 vaccination and address common questions and concerns.

View Toolkit

Common Questions

- Will I be required to get vaccinated for work?
- Do I need to wear a mask and avoid close contact with others after I am vaccinated?
- How can I report vaccine side effects?
- Do I still need a vaccine if I already had COVID-19?
- What can my employer do to manage staff experiencing vaccine side effects?

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