



COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccines for Workers at Increased Risk of Exposure

Updated Dec. 14, 2021

Find a COVID-19 Vaccine

Vaccines are widely accessible in the United States and are available for everyone ages 5 years and older [at no cost](#).

If you are searching for a vaccine or booster shot, you can:

- Visit [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) [🔗](#) to find out where vaccines are available in your community.
- Ask your doctor, pharmacist, or community health center if they provide vaccines.
- Contact your [state or local health department](#) for more information.
- Ask your employer if they are making vaccines available to employees and if they are offering time off to get your vaccine.
- If you are a contractor or work off site, discuss additional vaccination options with your employer.



Learn more about [how to find a COVID-19 vaccine](#) so you can get it as soon as you can.

Will I be required to get vaccinated for work?

An employer may require that their workers be vaccinated. **Check with your employer** to see if they have any rules that apply to you.

Have more questions? Visit [COVID-19 Vaccine Myths and Facts](#) and [FAQs about Vaccination](#).

What You Should Know about Your COVID-19 Vaccination

You can help protect yourself and the people around you by getting vaccinated.

- Studies show COVID-19 vaccines are [safe](#) and [effective](#).
- COVID-19 vaccines help prevent severe illness.
- Depending on the kind of [COVID-19 vaccine](#) you get, you might need a [second shot](#) 3 or 4 weeks after your first shot.



What to Expect during and after Your Vaccination

Your vaccination card and scheduling your next vaccination

- You should get a [CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record card](#) if it's your first vaccination appointment. After your first vaccination, you'll want to bring your card to all other COVID-19 vaccine appointments so it can be updated with information about the other doses you get.
- If you need another dose, you can schedule your next appointment with your vaccination provider. Otherwise, you can search for another vaccination provider using [any of the ways mentioned above](#).

Possible side effects

After vaccination, 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 the virus that causes COVID-19.

Use [v-safe](#) to tell CDC about any side effects. **V-safe** will provide you with personalized health check-ins after your vaccination and can remind you when to get any other doses you may need.

If you are an employer, consider time off for employees to get vaccinated.

Booster Shots

Everyone ages 16 years and older is eligible for a [booster shot](#).

Learn about [COVID-19 vaccine booster shots](#).

Related Pages

For Workers

- › [Post-Vaccination Considerations for Workplaces](#)
- › [Resources for Teachers, School Staff, and Child Care Workers](#)
- › [Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Healthcare Workers](#)
- › [Healthcare Workers: Information on COVID-19](#)

General Information

- › [Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- › [When You've Been Fully Vaccinated](#)
- › [Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- › [Booster Shots](#)