



COVID-19 Vaccines for People Vaccinated Outside the United States

Updated July 20, 2022

Specific recommendations for people vaccinated outside of the United States (shown below) depend on whether:

- The vaccine(s) received are accepted in the United States
- The primary series was completed
- A booster dose was received

For the best protection, CDC recommends everyone [stay up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines, including people who received a COVID-19 vaccine outside of the United States. A person is up to date with their COVID-19 vaccination when they have received all doses in the primary series and all recommended boosters, when eligible.

Accepted COVID-19 Vaccines

- Vaccines approved or authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which currently include:
 - [Johnson & Johnson's Janssen](#)
 - [Moderna](#)
 - [Novavax](#)
 - [Pfizer-BioNTech](#)
- Vaccines listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization (WHO), which currently include:
 - Johnson & Johnson's Janssen
 - Moderna
 - Pfizer-BioNTech
 - AstraZeneca
 - Covaxin
 - Covishield
 - BIBP/Sinopharm
 - Sinovac
 - Novavax/Covovax
 - Convidecia

If You Received an Accepted Vaccine

If You Didn't Receive an Accepted Vaccine

If you received an accepted COVID-19 vaccine outside the

If you received a COVID-19 vaccine that FDA has

If you received an [accepted COVID-19 vaccine](#) outside the United States, the next step is to [determine if you completed the primary series](#) or not.

If you received a COVID-19 vaccine that FDA has **not** authorized or approved, or that WHO does **not** list for emergency use, CDC recommends that you start your COVID-19 vaccination over with an FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine.

- Before receiving an [FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine](#), wait at least 28 days after the last dose of the non-FDA-authorized or approved vaccine.

Please note that there may be limited data available on the safety or effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination after receiving a non-FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine.

Determining primary series completion and up to date

If you were vaccinated outside of the United States you completed the primary series if you:

- Received one dose of a single-dose [accepted COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- Received two doses (or [any combination](#)  *) of a two-dose [accepted COVID-19 vaccine](#)

*CDC does not recommend mixing different COVID-19 vaccines for the primary series but is aware that this is increasingly common in many countries outside of the United States. Therefore, for the interpretation of vaccination records, people who received a mixed primary series have completed the primary series.

If You Completed the Primary Series	If You Didn't Complete the Primary Series	If You Received All Booster Doses
If you were vaccinated outside of the United States and completed the primary series you should receive all recommended boosters when eligible.	If you were vaccinated outside of the United States and have not completed the primary series as described above you do not have to start the primary series over. • You should get one primary series dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna). • If the first dose was an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine, it would be best to get the same vaccine again to complete the primary series. You should also receive all recommended boosters when eligible.	If you received all recommended boosters with an accepted vaccine outside the United States you are up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines .

For People Who are Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised



People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised and received COVID-19 vaccines not available in the United States should either complete or restart the recommended COVID-19 vaccine series. This includes getting [all recommended boosters](#) when eligible, in the United States. If you received all recommended booster dose(s) outside of the country with a vaccine listed for emergency use by WHO, you are [up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines](#).

Learn about the [specific COVID-19 vaccine recommendations for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised](#).

For more information, talk to your healthcare provider or see the [COVID-19 Interim Clinical Considerations](#).

Proof of Vaccination Card in the United States

The white CDC COVID-19 vaccination cards are only issued to people vaccinated in the United States. CDC recommends that people vaccinated outside of the United States keep their documentation of being vaccinated in another country as proof of vaccination. CDC does not keep vaccination records nor determine how vaccination records are used. People can update their records with vaccines they received while outside of the United States by:

- Contacting the [immunization information system \(IIS\)](#) in their state.
- Contacting their healthcare provider or local or state immunization program through their [state's health department](#).

Learn more about [COVID-19 vaccination records and vaccination cards](#).

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