CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

COVID-19

To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, get vaccinated as soon as you can and wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission.

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

Updated May 25, 2021   Print

> CDC now recommends that people aged 65 years and older, residents in long-term care settings, and people aged 50–64 years with underlying medical conditions **should** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 Vaccine at least 6 months after completing their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series. Other groups **may** receive a booster shot based on their individual risk and benefit. Learn more.

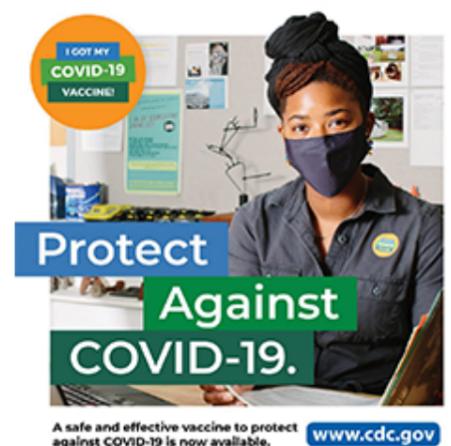## What Teachers, School Staff, and Childcare Workers Need to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines

Everyone 12 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 booster shots.

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.

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

The federal government is providing the vaccine **free of charge** to all people living in the United States, 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?

Last Updated May 25, 2021