

# COVID-19 Vaccine | Key Messages

Week of June 20, 2022

## Pediatric Vaccinations – Age 6 months through 4 years

- Following approval from federal health officials, vaccines are now widely available for children age 6 months through 4 years.
- There are two vaccine options authorized for children in this youngest age group:
  - Pfizer (6 months through 4 years)
    - 3 doses
    - 1/10 of an adult dose
    - 3 weeks between the first two doses, third dose at least 2 months after the second
  - Moderna (6 months through 5 years)
    - 2 doses
    - 1/4 of an adult dose
    - 4 weeks between two doses
- Parents can learn more about the vaccines at [Chicago.gov/Under5Vax](https://www.chicago.gov/Under5Vax)
- There are many ways for children under 5 to get vaccinated. Clinics may offer Pfizer, Moderna, or both:
  - **Family health care providers** – CDPH recommends families first reach out to their pediatrician or family medical provider to see if appointments are available.
  - CDPH will partner with three **Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) Blue Door Neighborhood Center sites** in the coming months to host family vaccination clinics for anyone 6 months and up. Pfizer and Moderna will be offered. Reservations are recommended but walk-ins are also accepted. Visit the links below to view the schedule for each location and register.
    - [Morgan Park](#) – 11840 S. Marshfield
      - June 28, July 14, July 23, July 26, August 11, August 20, September 8, October 6
    - [Pullman](#) – 756 E. 111th St.
      - June 30, July 13, July 16, July 28, August 4, August 10, August 13, September 1
    - [South Lawndale](#) – 2551 W. Cermak
      - July 1, July 29, August 3, August 27, August 31, September 6, September 24, October 4
  - CDPH will host **family vaccination clinics at City Colleges of Chicago**. These events will offer Pfizer and Moderna for children 6 months through 4 years old, as well as Pfizer vaccines and booster doses to all Chicagoans. All clinics will be open 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Registration is recommended and is available at the links below. Walk-ins will be accommodated as space allows.
    - Saturday, June 25 – [Kennedy-King College](#), 6301 S. Halsted St.
    - Saturday, July 2
      - [Richard J. Daley College](#), 7500 S. Pulaski Rd.
      - [Wilbur Wright College](#), 4300 N. Narragansett Ave.
    - Saturday, July 9
      - [Malcolm X College](#), 1900 W. Jackson Blvd.

- [Truman College](#), 1145 W. Wilson Ave.
  - Saturday, July 23 – [Kennedy-King College](#)
  - Saturday, July 30 – [Richard J. Daley College](#) and [Wilbur Wright College](#)
  - Saturday, August 6 – [Malcolm X College](#) and [Truman College](#)
  - Saturday, August 20 – [Kennedy-King College](#)
  - Saturday, August 27 – [Richard J. Daley College](#) and [Wilbur Wright College](#)
  - Saturday, September 3 – [Malcolm X College](#) and [Truman College](#)
- Family vaccination clinics at **Arturo Velasquez Institute in partnership with Alivio Medical Center** five days a week (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays-Saturdays) at 2800 S. Western Ave. Walk-ins welcome. Register [online](#) or by phone at 773-254-1400.
- Starting Saturday, June 25, CDPH's in-home vaccination program, **Protect Chicago At Home**, will expand to offer Pfizer vaccine for anyone 6 months or older. Up to 10 people can be vaccinated at a time, offering a great opportunity for the entire family to get up-to-date on their COVID-19 vaccinations. Make an at-home appointment at [Chicago.gov/AtHome](#) or by calling 312-746-4835.
- **Standing CDPH immunization clinics** will also offer Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines for anyone 6 months and up by appointment only. This includes:
  - Uptown WIC, 845 W. Wilson Ave., 2nd Level (call 312-742-3227 for an appointment)
  - Greater Lawn WIC, 4150 W. 55th St. (call 312-745-1477 for an appointment)
- **CPS' regional vaccination clinics and mobile vaccination events** will resume in early July when CPS schools open for summer programming and will offer the vaccine for children under five. Some of CPS' School Based Health centers will also be offering vaccines to children under five. Information on specific opportunities will be available in the coming weeks and will be announced by CPS. Check [cps.edu/vaccinations](#) for more information and vaccine opportunities for CPS families. If a CPS family needs assistance with locating a Medical Home, they may also call the Healthy CPS Hotline at 773-553-KIDS (5437) for assistance.
- Starting next week, some **CDPH-sponsored community events** will offer pediatric vaccinations for children under 5. For the calendar of community events, visit [Chicago.gov/VaxCalendar](#).
- Select **children's hospitals** will host pediatric vaccine events – check hospital websites for dates and more information.
- For those who need help finding a nearby site, [Vaccines.gov](#) is a free, online service that you can use to search for providers that offer vaccination. Residents can also call the City's COVID-19 call center at 312-746-4835.
- Parents must accompany children getting their vaccine. Learn more at [Chicago.gov/COVIDvax](#).

### **Chicago's COVID-19 Risk Level is currently MEDIUM**

- CDPH continues to recommend individuals wear a mask in indoor public places.
- Other recommended COVID-19 mitigations: get vaccinated and boosted; get tested if experiencing COVID-like symptoms, continue to follow quarantine and isolation guidelines, and stay home if you are sick.
- Severe outcomes in Chicago, including both COVID-19 hospitalizations and COVID-19 deaths, continue to remain at or near all-time pandemic lows.
  - Cook County (including Chicago) Medium Level is based on case counts and regional hospital impact. This is because the CDC's measurement of Cook County's hospitalization data for Community Levels reflects the burden on the whole federally defined Health Service Area, which includes Cook, Lake, DuPage, and McHenry Counties.
- CDPH uses the CDC's [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) to gauge the level of risk here in

## Chicago.

- CDC releases new COVID-19 Community Level data every Friday.
- Levels can be low, medium, or high and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used by COVID-19 patients, new COVID-19 hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area.
- Cases, hospitalizations, deaths, test positivity, and vaccination rates are all still updated on CDPH's COVID Dashboard at <https://chi.gov/coviddash>.

## Booster Doses

- You are considered up to date on COVID-19 vaccination if you have received all recommended doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, including any booster dose(s) when eligible
- First booster dose
  - All Chicagoans age 5+ are encouraged to get their COVID-19 booster dose, especially seniors and people with underlying medical conditions who are at higher risk of severe complications.
  - The CDC recently expanded emergency use authorization for Pfizer BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine boosters for **children ages 5 to 11 years old**.
    - Since the pandemic began, more than 4.8 million children ages 5-11 have been diagnosed with COVID-19, 15,000 have been hospitalized and, tragically, over 180 have died. As cases increase across the country, a booster dose will safely help restore and enhance protection against severe disease.
  - Individuals ages 5-17 should receive a Pfizer booster at least five (5) months after completing their initial vaccine series.
  - For individuals age 18+ and older, mRNA vaccines (Pfizer or Moderna) are preferred over J&J for boosters.
    - If initial vaccine series was Pfizer or Moderna, booster should be given five month later
    - Those who received a J&J/Janssen vaccine, should receive a booster dose at least two months after their initial dose
- Second booster dose - The following individuals **should get a second mRNA booster** (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) 4 months after their first booster dose:
  - People ages 12 years and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised
  - People ages 50 years and older
- While all three COVID-19 vaccines continue to be very effective in preventing hospitalization and death, booster doses provide extra protection against COVID-19. Booster doses do a good job of strengthening protection against COVID-19 that may have started to wane after the initial vaccination.
- Chicagoans can get booster doses at sites across the city – through healthcare providers, local pharmacies, CDPH immunization clinics, the Protect Chicago At Home program, and more. For more information and to find your vaccine, go to [Chicago.gov/COVIDvax](https://chicago.gov/COVIDvax).
- Boosters do not qualify for incentive programs, including the \$50 gift card promotion.

