



COVID-19 Vaccines: Your best shot against COVID-19.

Tested, safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines will help us get back in control of our lives and back to the people and places we love.

Scientists had a head start.

The vaccines were built upon decades of work to develop vaccines for similar viruses.

Tested, safe and effective.

More than 70,000 people volunteered in clinical trials for two vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) to see if they are safe and work to prevent COVID illness. Volunteers included Black/African Americans, Hispanic LatinX, Asians and others. To date, the vaccines are 95% effective in preventing COVID-19 with no serious safety concerns noted in the clinical trials. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) makes sure the vaccines are safe and can prevent people from getting COVID-19. Like all drugs, vaccine safety continues to be monitored after they are in use.

You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine.

You may have temporary reactions like a sore arm, headache or feeling tired and achy for a day or two after receiving the vaccine.

You Have a Spot to Take Your Shot.

A vaccine will be available to all who want it, but supplies will be limited at first. Independent state and federal public health advisory groups have determined that the best way to fight COVID-19 is to start first with vaccines aimed at helping to slow the spread and save lives, then reach more people as the vaccine supply increases throughout 2021. Rest assured: you have a spot to take your shot.

Finding Your Spot.

Vaccines will be available first in hospitals, local health departments and long-term care facilities, and then in a variety of settings like clinics, pharmacies and vaccination events in prioritized settings and in the community. You can find out where you can take your shot at YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov.

Take your shot at no cost.

The COVID-19 vaccine will be available to everyone for free, whether or not you have health insurance.

You'll need two shots to build up your immunity.

After a person gets a first dose, they will need to come back 3 to 4 weeks later for a second dose. You will get a printed card and email reminder of when to get your second dose.

Continue to practice the 3 Ws until everyone has their shot at fighting COVID-19.

Wear a mask. Wait 6 feet apart. Wash your hands. That's the best way to protect each other until everyone gets their shot.





Vaccine availability: Find your phase.



1a

Health care workers fighting COVID-19 & Long-Term Care staff and residents.

- Health care workers caring for and working directly with patients with COVID-19, including staff responsible for cleaning and maintenance in those areas
- · Health care workers administering vaccine
- · Long-term care staff and residents—people in skilled nursing facilities and in adult, family and group homes

1b

Adults 75 years or older and frontline essential workers.

There is not enough vaccine for everyone in this phase to be vaccinated at the same time. Vaccinations will be available to groups in the following order.

- Group 1: Anyone 75 years or older, regardless of health status or living situation
- Group 2: Health care workers and frontline essential workers 50 years or older*
- Group 3: Health care workers and frontline essential workers of any age
- * The CDC defines frontline essential workers as first responders (e.g., firefighters and police officers), corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, U.S. Postal Service workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the education sector (teachers and support staff members) as well as child care workers

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Adults at high risk for exposure and at increased risk of severe illness.

Vaccinations will happen by group in the following order:

- Group 1: Anyone 65-74 years old, regardless of health status or living situation
- **Group 2:** Anyone 16-64 years old with high-risk medical conditions that increase risk of severe disease from COVID-19 such as cancer, COPD, serious heart conditions, sickle cell disease, Type 2 diabetes, among others, regardless of living situation
- **Group 3:** Anyone who is incarcerated or living in other close group living settings who is not already vaccinated due to age, medical condition or job function
- Group 4: Essential workers not yet vaccinated*
- * The CDC defines these as workers in transportation and logistics, water and wastewater, food service, shelter and housing (e.g., construction), finance (e.g., bank tellers), information technology and communications, energy, legal, media, and public safety (e.g., engineers), and public health workers

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Students

- College and university students
- K-12 students age 16 and over. Younger children will only be vaccinated when the vaccine is approved for them

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Everyone who wants a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccination.

