

COVID-19 Vaccine for Kids

Frequently Asked Questions

July 2021

Children and adolescents, 12 years and older, are now eligible to get vaccinated against COVID-19!

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) now recommends everyone 12 years and older should get a COVID-19 vaccination to help protect against COVID-19. Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic. Plus, people who are fully vaccinated can resume activities that they did prior to the pandemic.

Help protect your whole family by getting yourself and your children, 12 years and older, vaccinated against COVID-19!

Is it safe for my child to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes. Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. Like adults, children may have some symptoms after COVID-19 vaccination. These symptoms may affect their ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. COVID-19 vaccines have been used under the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history, including studies in children 12 years and older. Your child cannot get COVID-19 from any COVID-19 vaccine.

Why should my child get vaccinated against COVID-19?

The COVID-19 vaccination can help protect your child from getting COVID-19. Although fewer children have been sick with COVID-19 compared to adults, children can still:

- Get infected with the virus that causes COVID-19
- Get sick from COVID-19
- Spread the virus that causes COVID-19 to others

Getting your child vaccinated helps to protect your child and your family. Vaccination is now recommended for everyone 12 years and older.

What are the most common symptoms of the COVID-19 vaccine?

After getting vaccinated, you might have some symptoms, which are normal signs that your body is building protection. Common symptoms are pain, redness, and swelling in the arm where you received the shot, as well as tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever, and nausea throughout the rest of the body. These side effects could affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days.

Which COVID-19 vaccine can my child get?

Children 12 years and older are able to get the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.

Can my child get the regularly-scheduled immunizations they might have missed during the pandemic?

Yes, it is safe for your child to get their immunizations during the same time period they get their COVID-19 vaccination. Plus, your local school-based health center will be open and offering immunizations throughout the summer months.



This document was prepared in coordination with the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services, Child and Adolescent Health Services Unit.

Information in this document was sourced from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website, [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

COVID-19 Vaccine for Children & Adolescents

Frequently Asked Questions

How long does the protection from a COVID-19 vaccination last?

We don't know how long protection lasts for those who are vaccinated. What we do know is that COVID-19 has caused very serious illness and death for a lot of people. If you get COVID-19, you also risk giving it to loved ones who may get very sick. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine is a safer choice.

Experts are working to learn more about both natural immunity and vaccine-induced immunity. The CDC will keep the public informed as new evidence becomes available.

Do we need to wear a mask and social distance after we have been fully vaccinated?

It depends. For now, fully vaccinated people (adults and children) can gather indoors without physical distancing or wearing masks with:

- Other people who are fully vaccinated
- Unvaccinated people from one other household, unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19

Until more is known, fully vaccinated people should continue to wear masks and stay 6 feet apart from other people in other settings, like when they are in public or visiting with unvaccinated people from multiple households.

Do I have to pay to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

No. 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 vaccination providers cannot:

- Charge you for the vaccine
- Charge you directly for any administration fees, copays, or coinsurance
- Deny vaccination to anyone who does not have health insurance coverage, is underinsured, or is out of network
- Charge an office visit or other fee to the recipient if the only service provided is a COVID-19 vaccination
- Require additional services in order for a person to receive a COVID-19 vaccine; however, additional healthcare services can be provided at the same time and billed as appropriate

Where can I get the COVID-19 vaccine for my child?

For help finding a vaccination site, contact your local school-based health center.

Use the QR code to find your local health center's contact information and summer hours!

Or, visit Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine or call their COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136.



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