

COVID-19 Vaccination for Children

Why should I vaccinate my child?

Cases in children are increasing. We must get young people vaccinated to prevent more hospitalizations and deaths.

Vaccinations may stop the spread of coronavirus variants. They can also shrink the pool of people vulnerable to COVID-19. By getting children 5 and up vaccinated, families can be safer as we get back to doing the things we love.

Will my child have to get vaccinated to attend in-person schooling?

Yes. Students will soon be required to be vaccinated for in-person learning. This will start the term following FDA full approval of the vaccine for their grade span (7-12 and K-6). The COVID-19 vaccine will be added to the list of required vaccinations for school. This includes vaccines for measles, mumps, rubella and more.

My child has had reactions to other vaccines. Should they still get the vaccine?

Yes, unless they have had anaphylactic-type reactions to components of the Pfizer vaccine. Allergic reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine are rare. Talk to your child's doctor before vaccination if they've had:

- Severe allergies
- Flu vaccination reactions

Can children who have pre-existing conditions like asthma get vaccinated?

Youth aged 5 and up can still receive the COVID-19 vaccine even if they have health conditions. Talk to your doctor or clinic about your child's specific conditions.

Why did it take longer for the COVID-19 vaccine to be approved for youth?

Vaccine trials commonly begin with older, more vulnerable populations. They then extend to younger ages. This phased eligibility approach balances the need for both safety and speed.

Clinical trials in more than 4,500 children ages 5-11 prove the COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective. It results in a strong antibody response in children who received the vaccines.