

Loudoun County, Virginia

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NEWS RELEASE

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COVID-19 Vaccination Appointments for Ages 5-11 Available Now; Loudoun Health Department Encourages Vaccination of Children ASAP

COVID-19 vaccinations for children ages 5 to 11 are now widely available throughout Loudoun County. The county's Dulles Town Center clinic has vaccination appointments for children in this age group open as early as Tuesday, November 16, 2021. Additional appointments are available on Friday and Saturday, November 19 and 20, as well as on Tuesday, November 23. Visit loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine to make an appointment now.

Additional vaccination opportunities from other providers, such as pediatricians' offices and pharmacies, are also available. Find vaccination appointments from any provider at <u>vaccines.gov</u>.

"As we approach the holiday season when families tend to travel and gather in groups, vaccination against COVID-19 for everyone five and older is critical," said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend. "Thousands of children have already received the vaccine safely, but tens of thousands of other children in Loudoun still need to get their shot and I encourage parents to make appointments as soon as possible."

To date, more than 515,000 children ages 5 to 17 have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine in Virginia, including more than 44,000 in Loudoun County. Since vaccination of children ages 5 to 11 began in Loudoun on November 5, more than 8,900 children have received Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine in Loudoun.

Analysis of new COVD-19 cases in Loudoun and Virginia shows that the highest rate of infection in children is among those ages 5 to 11.

"The data shows that the vaccine is safe and effective in our children, and we know that protecting children from the virus and limiting their ability to spread the virus through vaccination is a key step in bringing the pandemic to an end," added Dr. Goodfriend.

In addition to children ages 5 to 11, Loudoun County continues to offer vaccination appointments to anyone 12 years and older who has not yet received a vaccine or who is eligible for a booster dose. This includes:

- Residents who are 12 and older and have not yet received their first and/or second dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- Residents who are <u>moderately and severely immunocompromised individuals</u> and are recommended by the CDC for a third dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine.
- Residents who are <u>eligible for a booster dose of the Johnson & Johnson, Moderna or</u> Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines.

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Loudoun County is currently offering all three types of vaccine (Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson). Children 17 and younger must receive Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

For additional information about COVID-19 and to sign up for COVID-19 text and email updates from Loudoun County, visit loudoun.gov/coronavirus.

Anyone with questions about COVID-19 vaccine may call the Health Department's information line at 703-737-8300 or email health@loudoun.gov.