

# Loudoun County, Virginia

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Loudoun County Now Offering COVID-19 Booster Appointments to All Adults**

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has <u>authorized</u> vaccine providers to begin administering booster doses of the Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines to all adults, as <u>recommended</u> by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and <u>authorized</u> by the Food and Drug Administration. There are now booster recommendations for all three available COVID-19 vaccines in the United States.

Loudoun County is now offering appointments for booster doses at its Dulles Town Center clinic. Note that a limited number of booster appointments are available through November due to demand. Individuals who are 18 and older and received their second dose in the two-dose series of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine at least six months ago are eligible for the booster. People who received the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine at least two months ago are already recommended to receive a booster dose.

"The latest recommendation simplifies the vaccination process as everyone 5 years and older is now eligible for the vaccine and everyone 18 years and older is now recommended to get a booster," said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend. "However, we continue to see substantial transmission of the virus in our community—largely driven by infected children—so vaccinating children 5 and older as soon as possible remains a critical phase in our ongoing efforts to protect Loudoun residents and help bring an end to the pandemic."

#### **Vaccination Eligibility**

Loudoun County is offering vaccination appointments for:

- **First and Second Doses:** People ages 5 and older who have not yet received their first and/or second dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Boosters:** People ages 18 and older who received the second in a two-dose series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine at least six months ago, or who received the J&J vaccine at least two months ago.

#### **Mix and Match Booster Doses**

The CDC and VDH previously approved the "mix and match" approach to boosters, allowing people to receive a different brand of vaccine for the booster dose than what they received in their initial vaccine series. For example, someone who received the one-dose J&J vaccine could receive either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine as a booster. Loudoun County offers all three types of vaccine at its Dulles Town Center clinic, as supplies allow. Learn more about booster doses on the CDC's website.

#### **How to Get a COVID-19 Vaccine**

To make an appointment online for a COVID-19 vaccine at the county's Dulles Town Center site, visit <u>loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine</u>. Anyone without internet access or who needs assistance making an appointment can call the county information line at 703-737-8300 weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Note: the county's call center will close at 1:00 p.m. on Nov. 24, and the call center and vaccination site will be closed Nov. 25-28 in observance of the Thanksgiving Day holiday.)

In addition, COVID-19 vaccine is widely available in the community from many providers, such as medical offices and pharmacies including, but not limited to, CVS, Giant Food, Harris Teeter, Safeway, Walgreens, Walmart and Wegmans. These locations have the benefit of being able to also provide flu vaccine at the same time, which is recommended by the Health Department. Visit vaccines.gov to find a vaccination site near you.

## Know When You're Eligible for a Booster Dose

With the CDC guidance calling for booster doses to be administered at least six months (180 days) after the second dose of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines and two months after the J&J vaccine, it's important that people know when they completed their initial series so that they can appropriately time a booster.

You can find the date you completed the initial series on your vaccination card. If you received that dose in Virginia and have misplaced the card, you can find the date by <u>searching for your vaccine record online</u>. If you need assistance over the phone, call 1-877-VAX-IN-VA (1-877-829-4682). Assistance is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Virginia Department of Health has added a scannable QR code to vaccination records. The technology allows anyone vaccinated in Virginia to show proof of vaccination with a digital or printed QR code instead of a paper card. If you have moved to Loudoun from another state since receiving your second dose of Pfizer or Moderna or dose of J&J, you should check with the health department for your previous jurisdiction for your vaccination record.

#### **Stay Informed**

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 send an email to health@loudoun.gov.