

COVID-19 Vaccination Opportunity

**Vaccination for adolescents
16 years and older is now available.**

**GOAL: Educate you on the science of vaccines so
that you (with your family) can make a decision
to get vaccinated.**

**Starting April 15, 2021 everyone over age 16 is eligible to be
vaccinated in Washington.**

BioNTech/Pfizer (NT1622)

- mRNA vaccine

- Two doses –

2nd shot is given 21 days

(3 weeks) after the first shot

- 95% effective

- Authorized for 16 and older

Pfizer vaccine is the only vaccine approved for use in adolescents 16- 18 years old.

- FDA fact sheet:

<https://www.fda.gov/media/144414/download>



COVID-19 mRNA vaccines

teach our cells how to make a piece of a protein to trigger an immune response and build immunity to the virus that causes COVID-19.

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Learn about mRNA vaccines and how they work:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/mrna.html>

mRNA vaccines

- ✓ A type of vaccine to protect against infectious diseases.
- ✓ mRNA type of vaccine **teaches our cells how to make a protein that triggers an immune response inside our bodies.**
- ✓ That immune response, which produces antibodies, is what protects us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies. The cell displays the protein piece on its surface.
- ✓ Our immune systems recognize that the protein doesn't belong there and begin building an immune response and making antibodies, like what happens in natural infection against COVID-19
- ✓ mRNA **does not** affect or interact with a person's DNA, and the cell breaks down and gets rid of the mRNA as soon as it is finished using these instructions.

You may have symptoms like a fever, sore arm, or tired, after you get a vaccine.

This is normal and a sign that your immune system is learning how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19.

Learn more about the facts behind COVID-19 vaccines:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>

Vaccine efficacy and effectiveness

In clinical trials, researchers measure how well a vaccine prevents illness in a controlled setting. This is called efficacy.

95% does mean that the vaccine reduces the amount of disease by 95% for vaccinated people, compared to people who haven't gotten vaccinated.

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-safety.htm>

What are the side effects of the COVID-19 vaccines?

•**Side effect:** An effect that occurs after receipt of a medication or vaccine. Even though these are unwanted, they can be expected based on previous experience (e.g., clinical trials) and result despite proper use of the medication or vaccine.

You may have symptoms like

- Fatigue/Tired
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Fever or Chills
- Sore arm
- Feel like you have the flu
- This is normal and a sign that your immune system is learning how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19.

Learn more about the facts behind COVID-19 vaccines:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>

Most people are able to get the COVID-19 vaccine, once supplies allow for their priority group to be vaccinated. But, a few groups of people should not get the vaccine, and some others should consult with their doctor or follow special procedures.

People who should NOT get the COVID-19 vaccine

- Anyone with a previous severe or immediate allergic reaction (i.e., one that causes anaphylaxis or requires medical intervention) to a COVID-19 mRNA vaccine dose, a vaccine component, or polysorbate.
- Those younger than 16 years of age.
- People currently isolating or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19; these people can get vaccinated once they are finished isolation and their primary symptoms have resolved.

People who may get the vaccine after considering risks and benefits and/or consulting with their healthcare provider

- Individuals with a history of severe or immediate allergic reaction to any vaccine or injectable medication (These individuals should be observed for 30 minutes after receipt of the vaccine.)
- Pregnant women
- People with certain immune-compromising conditions
- Breastfeeding women
- People on anticoagulants

People who should follow special procedures

- Someone with a history of severe or immediate allergic reaction (requiring medical intervention) to anything other than a vaccine or injectable medication can get the vaccine, but they should remain at the vaccination location for medical observation for 30 minutes after receipt of the vaccine.
- People who recently had COVID-19 and were treated with antibody-based therapies (e.g., monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma) should wait until 90 days after treatment to be vaccinated.
- People with a known COVID-19 exposure should wait until their quarantine is over before getting vaccinated
- People who got another vaccine (non-COVID-19 vaccine) should wait at least 14 days before getting COVID-19 vaccine. Likewise, if a person got the COVID-19 vaccine, they should wait at least 14 days before getting any other vaccines (non-COVID-19 vaccines).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) allows for a 4-day grace period when assessing on-time receipt. This means the following ranges of days are considered “on-time” for receipt of the second dose:

- Pfizer vaccine: 17 to 25 days after the first dose
- Moderna vaccine: 24 to 32 days after the first dose

People should try to get the second dose during this period or as soon after as possible. However, if your second dose is given later than this, you do not need to restart the vaccine. You still only need to get the second dose. However, it is important to note that the first dose did not protect as many people as were protected after the second dose, so if you are exposed to SARS-CoV-2 during the delay, you may or may not have enough immunity to prevent you from experiencing symptoms.

People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, meaning it has been two weeks or longer since they have finished their vaccine series, can engage in some social situations. These include:

- Visiting with other fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Visiting with unvaccinated people from a single household who are all at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease, indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Refraining from quarantine and testing following a known exposure, if asymptomatic.

It continues to be important that fully vaccinated people follow public health best practices in public spaces. This includes wearing a mask and physically distancing. Fully vaccinated people should also continue these practices when visiting unvaccinated people who are at an increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease.

While experts learn more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions, it will be important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic.

To protect yourself and others, follow these recommendations:

1. Wear a mask over your nose and mouth
2. Stay at least 6 feet away from others
3. Avoid crowds
4. Avoid poorly ventilated spaces
5. Wash your hands often

Remember as educators are vaccinated:

If an individual is vaccinated at work they must still use mitigation measures (masks, distancing, hand washing).

Not every educator will choose to be vaccinated.

Some students 16+ may become vaccinated. Younger students will not be vaccinated until vaccines have received the same Emergency Use Authorization.

Quarantine Period After Vaccination

Vaccinated persons with an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they meet all of the following criteria:

- are fully vaccinated (i.e., exposure to someone with COVID-19 happened at least two weeks after receiving the last dose of their vaccine series), **and**
- have not had any symptoms of COVID-19 since the current exposure

Teachers and staff who do meet the above criteria and choose not to quarantine should still watch for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure.

Quarantine Period After Vaccination

Teachers and staff who do not meet the criteria or are unvaccinated against COVID-19 should continue to follow current quarantine guidance after exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

Even after teachers and staff are vaccinated, schools will need to continue to follow the recommended mitigation strategies for the foreseeable future, including requiring masks in schools and physical distancing.

What We Know and What We're Still Learning

We know that...

- COVID-19 vaccines are effective at preventing COVID-19 disease, especially severe illness and death.
- other prevention steps help stop the spread of COVID-19, and that these steps are still important, even as vaccines are being distributed.

What We Know and What We're Still Learning

We're still learning...

- how effective the vaccines are against variants of the virus that causes COVID-19. (Early data show the vaccines may work against some variants but could be less effective against others.)
- how well COVID-19 vaccines keep people from spreading the disease.
- how long COVID-19 vaccines can protect people.

References

CDC's [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

CDC's [COVID-19 Vaccine 8 Things To Know about the U.S. COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#)

CDC's [U.S. COVID-19 Vaccine Product Information](#)

CDC's What to Expect After Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect/after.html>

CDC When You've Been Fully Vaccinated:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

References

Harvard Medical School Coronavirus Resource Center:
<https://www.health.harvard.edu/diseases-andconditions/coronavirus-resource-center>

UW Health's [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Vaccine Makers Project - The Coronavirus Pandemic –
Answering Your Questions <https://vaccinemakers.org/news-events/coronavirus-pandemic-answering-your-questions>

References

Wisconsin Department of Health Services [COVID-19: Vaccine webpage](#)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services [COVID-19: Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services [Post Vaccination Guidance for Schools](#)

Resources

CDC [Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

CDC Clinical Resources for Each COVID-19 Vaccine: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>

CDC [Recipient Education](#)

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia [Questions and Answers About COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

Resources

CDC [COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit for School Settings and Childcare Programs](#)

FDA Vaccine Facts - The path for a COVID -19 Vaccine from Research to Emergency Use Authorization:

<https://www.fda.gov/media/143890/download>

Resources

Moderna EUA fact sheet:

<https://www.modernatx.com/covid19vaccine-eua/eua-fact-sheet-recipient.pdf>

Pfizer EUA fact sheet:

https://www.fda.gov/media/144414/download?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery