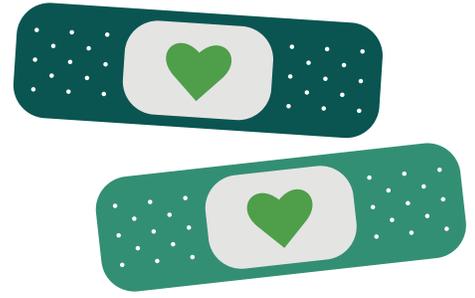# Can I Get a COVID Vaccine?

Information about COVID-19 vaccination can be confusing right now. Here are the most current answers to your FAQs.

Updated October 31, 2025
This document is specific to how federal changes impact Missouri and will be updated weekly as new information becomes available.

What's changed?

- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) updated its advice on COVID-19 shots.
- Instead of recommending the vaccine for everyone 6 months and older, ACIP now says people should decide with their doctor if it's right for them.
- This sounds good, but the loose recommendation means that rules for the COVID shot will depend on what state you're in. This has caused a lot of confusion.
- The old recommendation never made getting the shot a requirement, and public health has always encouraged people to ask their doctor for advice about personal health decisions.
- The Secretary of Health and Human Services and CDC director initially delayed signing off on these recommendations, which caused further confusion and delays for healthcare providers.
- On top of new recommendations from ACIP, the FDA updated their guidelines for who should receive COVID-19 vaccinations. The FDA and ACIP guidelines do not match.
- This difference between what the FDA and ACIP is saying – which is also different from what most major medical associations are saying – have made things even more confusing for healthcare providers and the public.

Where can I get a COVID vaccine?

- **COVID-19 vaccines are available at most retail pharmacies (i.e. CVS, Walgreens, Hy-Vee).**

- **CCPHC will offer COVID vaccines starting Nov. 5, 2025, by appointment only. Call 816-595-4355 to schedule.**

- Eligibility at CCPHC: Anyone 65+ years old can get a COVID vaccine. For anyone age 6 months to 64 years old, they (or their guardian) will be asked to self-attest to an underlying condition (see QR code on next page) and chat with a CCPHC RN about pros and cons (shared clinical decision making).

Do I need a prescription?

- **No**. Now that the ACIP guidelines have been signed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, most providers that previously required a prescription are no longer requiring one.
- **Call your vaccine provider ahead of time if you have questions.**
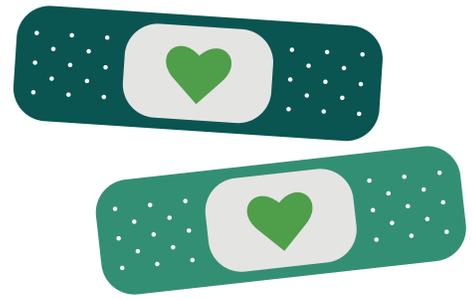
Will my insurance cover the COVID-19 vaccine?

- **Yes.** America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) is the professional organization representing health insurance companies. They have made an official public statement that their member organizations will cover COVID-19 vaccines. This includes Medicare & Medicaid (MOHealthNet) plans.
- This is because the vaccine is still considered a safe and effective way to prevent severe illness and reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the community.
- **Call your insurance provider to get the most personalized information about your coverage.**

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What if I Don't Have Health Insurance?

- The shot is covered under the Vaccines for Children (VFC) and Vaccines for Adults (VFA) program.
- **CCPHC has a limited number of doses for the VFC and VFA program and can start scheduling appointments for November 5, 2025 and beyond.**
- **These will be first-come-first-served, so call us at 816-595-4200 to ensure they're still in stock.**
- VFC/VFA clients ages 6 months - 64 years will be asked to self-attest to an underlying condition (see QR code below) and undergo a shared clinical decision making process.

How Do I Know if I Have An Underlying Condition?

- The list of underlying conditions that increase COVID risk is very broad.

- Many people may not realize that they fall into a health category that puts them at higher risk of serious illness, hospitalization, or even death from COVID-19.

- **For the full list of conditions that make COVID-19 high-risk, scan the QR code below.**

cdc.gov/covid/hcp/clinical-care/underlying-conditions.html

Who Can Get a COVID Shot?

- Right now the FDA recommends that COVID-19 vaccinations are given to:
  - People ages 65+
  - People ages 5+ with an underlying health condition

- ACIP is recommending the vaccines for people aged 6 months and older, with guidance from your healthcare professional.

- Most major medical organizations are still recommending the vaccine for most people over 6 months old. Vaccinations for healthy people lower their own risk of severe illness and help prevent spread to high risk groups.

- **Call your primary care provider for more information.**

What if I Have More Questions?

- For questions about whether the COVID-19 vaccine is the best choice for you, we recommend speaking with your primary care provider.

- Your insurance company is the best resource about what vaccines are covered and what vaccine providers are in your insurance network.

- Check back frequently for COVID-19 vaccine updates via our Facebook or checking clayhealth.com/imms@hc.

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