COVID-19 Vaccine Resources: People with Disabilities

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Call to Action

 COVID-19 vaccines are **important prevention tools** for stopping the COVID-19 pandemic.
 **You** are on the front lines of keeping our communities healthy.
 **You** can help the communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19 feel confident and safe in their decision to get vaccinated.
 We have resources to help you do that!

Digital Consumer Resources

- Resources for the general public
- Written in plain language
- Streamlined approach to deliver content that people need to know and answers to common questions:
  - Frequently Asked Questions about Vaccination
  - Addressing Rumors with Facts about Vaccines
  - Different Vaccines
  - Communication Resources Toolkits
COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Toolkits for CBOs and Essential Workers

Your Health is Essential

COVID-19 vaccines add another layer of protection.

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine adds another layer of protection.

Learn how you can get a COVID-19 vaccine to keep you and your family safe.

Learn how you can get a COVID-19 vaccine.

www.cdc.gov
Toolkit Content

- Introductory letter
- Key messages
- Frequently asked questions
- Basic slide decks
- Plain language fact sheet in several languages

- Customizable newsletter content
- Customizable letters
- Stickers
- Posters
- Social media images and sample messages
Toolkit Content Tailored for Each Audience

Frequently Asked Questions about the COVID-19 Vaccine

FAQs and Key Messages for Communities

1. Why should I get vaccinated for COVID-19?
COVID-19 can cause serious illness or even death. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you. And if you get sick, you could spread the disease to friends, family, and others around you. All COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the United States have been shown to be highly effective at preventing COVID-19 disease. Even if you still get infected after you get vaccinated, the vaccine may prevent serious illness.

2. Can the vaccine give me COVID-19?
No, the vaccine does not cause COVID-19. None of the approved COVID-19 vaccines contain the virus that causes COVID-19. It does take a few weeks after vaccination for your body to build up antibodies to protect you from the virus. That means it's possible you could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 before or just after getting the vaccine and still get sick.

3. Will the shot hurt or make me sick?
Some people might get sore muscles, feel tired, or have mild fever after getting the vaccine. These reactions mean the vaccine is working to help teach your body how to fight COVID-19 if you are exposed. For most people, these side effects will last no longer than a few days. If you have any concerns, call your doctor or nurse.

FAQs about COVID-19 Vaccination in the Workplace: For Workers

1. Will my employer require proof that I am vaccinated?
Whether an employer may require or mandate COVID-19 vaccination is a matter of state or other applicable law. If your employer requires you to provide proof that you received a COVID-19 vaccination from a pharmacy or your own healthcare provider, you do not need to provide any medical information as part of the proof. Learn more from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

2. How will I remember to get the second shot?
Each person getting the COVID-19 vaccine will receive a vaccination record card to make sure they receive the correct vaccine for the second dose. You can also enroll in v-safe, a smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you receive a COVID-19 vaccination. v-safe will remind you to get your second COVID-19 vaccine dose if you need one.

3. What if I miss my second shot?
Some people who receive the first dose of COVID-19 vaccine may not be able to receive the second dose when their employer offers it. In those cases, they may complete the vaccine series by bringing their vaccination record card to another location in their area that is administering vaccine. You should not need to restart your series of shots. It is important that you get the same vaccine for both your first and second dose.

What if I can’t be vaccinated for medical or religious reasons?
The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has no position on COVID-19 vaccination. With a medical exemption, some people may be at risk for an adverse reaction because of an allergy to one of the vaccine components or a medical condition.

FAQs about COVID-19 Vaccination in the Workplace: For Employers

1. What are the benefits of having a workplace COVID-19 vaccination program?
Making COVID-19 vaccination part of your workplace wellness program offers many benefits to you and your employees. To keep your workplace healthy, consider offering free, on-site COVID-19 vaccination at your business locations.

Potential benefits to employees:
- Prevent COVID-19 illness
- Reduce absences and doctor visits due to illness
- Offers convenience
- Improve morale

Potential benefits to employers:
- Keep the workforce healthy by preventing employees from getting COVID-19
- Reduce time missed from work to get vaccinated
- Improve productivity
- Improve morale

If your business can’t offer COVID-19 vaccinations on site, or if your state or jurisdiction has determined that your business is not a suitable location at this time, encourage employees to seek COVID-19 vaccination in their community and provide them with information about where they can get the vaccine.

2. How does my workplace implement a COVID-19 vaccination program?
Employers considering implementing a workplace COVID-19 vaccination program should contact the health department in their jurisdiction for guidance. The planning process for hosting a workplace COVID-19 vaccination program should include input
COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Toolkit for Community-Based Organizations

Key facts about COVID-19 vaccination

Getting vaccinated can help prevent getting sick with COVID-19
People who have already gotten sick with COVID-19 may still benefit from getting vaccinated
COVID-19 vaccines cannot give you COVID-19
COVID-19 vaccines will not cause you to test positive on COVID-19 rapid tests


Key messages & FAQs

Posters

COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Toolkit for Community-Based Organizations

Customizable Letters

Newsletter Content

Social Media Content

Note to organizations: Use this article in your e-newsletters or hard-copy newsletters that you distribute to members. Please consider a "special edition" newsletter with this article and supplement it with information about how to contact for more information about vaccines. Feel free to customize the text to make it appropriate for your organization.

COVID-19 vaccine: It is too early to roll up our sleeves and get vaccinated!

It is hard to imagine a time when we didn’t know COVID-19 existed. Now when people see "vaccine," they know what it means. The mark of COVID-19 on our lives, our activities, and our freedom has affected us all. The responsibility is ours, as a community, to stop this virus. Now we have a new, safe, and effective tool to help us do that—COVID-19 vaccine.

It takes everyone:

We all need to stay up to beat COVID-19. We ask you to join us in protecting yourself, your family and friends, and our community by getting vaccinated.

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Facts about COVID-19 vaccines

Vaccines (shots) are one of the tools we have to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

To stop this pandemic, we need to use all of our prevention tools. Vaccines are one of the most effective tools to protect your health and prevent disease. Vaccines work with your body’s natural defenses so your body will be ready to fight the virus, if you are exposed (also called immunity). Other steps, like wearing a mask that covers your nose and mouth and staying at least 6 feet away from other people you don’t live with, also help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are very effective at keeping you from getting COVID-19. Experts also think that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19. These vaccines cannot give you the disease itself.

The vaccines are safe. The U.S. vaccine safety system makes sure that all vaccines are as safe as possible. All the COVID-19 vaccines that are being used have gone through the same safety tests and meet the same standards as any other vaccines produced through the years. A system in place across the entire country that allows CDC to watch for safety issues and make sure the vaccines stay safe.

Different types of COVID-19 vaccines will be available. Most of these vaccines are given in two shots, one at a time and spaced apart. The first shot gets your body ready. The second shot is given at least three weeks later to make sure you have full protection. If you are told you need two shots, make sure that you get both of them. The vaccines may work in slightly different ways, but all types of the vaccines will help protect you.

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines

COVID-19 Disability Resources

**Toolkit: People with Disabilities**

- **Guidance and Planning Documents:**
  - Guidance for Direct Service Providers for People with Disabilities
  - Guidance for Direct Service Providers, Caregivers, Parents, and People with Developmental and Behavioral Disorders
  - Guidance for Group Homes for Individuals with Disabilities
  - Guidance for Handlers of Service and Therapy Animals

- **Web Resources:**
  - People with Disabilities
  - People with Developmental and Behavioral Disorders
  - People with Certain Medical Conditions
  - American Sign Language (ASL) Video Series
  - Easy to Read COVID-19 Safety

**Vaccine-Related Resources**

- Vaccine Considerations for People with Disabilities
- Clinical Considerations: Vaccinating Older Adults and People with Disabilities
- Clinical Considerations: Vaccinating Homebound Persons

**Accessible materials**

- Project with GA Tech Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation and CDC Foundation
  - [https://cidi.gatech.edu/covid](https://cidi.gatech.edu/covid)
- Webinars and tools
- Formats
  - American Sign Language
  - Braille
  - Easy to Read
  - Accessible Word documents and PDFs

![Accessible materials image](image-url)