How can I get vaccinated?

Vaccines are available at hundreds of locations throughout LA County such as clinics, pharmacies, worksites, schools, places of worship, and other community locations. In-home vaccination is available for people who are homebound. Many locations do not require an appointment.

To get a vaccine visit VaccinateLACounty.com and select "Click Here to Get Vaccinated" to find a location or request an in-home vaccination. If you need help, you can call the **DPH Vaccine Call Center** at **833-540-0473,** 7 days a week from 8am to 8:30pm. They can arrange in-home vaccination, free transportation to a vaccination site, or help with paratransit and other services for people with disabilities. Information is also available in multiple languages 24/7 by calling 2-1-1.

Will I have to pay to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

No. If you have insurance, your doctor or pharmacy may charge your insurance company a fee for giving the vaccine. People without health insurance can also get COVID-19 vaccines at no cost. There are no out-of-pocket payments for anyone.

Will I be asked about my immigration status when I get a COVID-19 vaccine?

No. COVID-19 vaccine is being given at no cost regardless of immigration status. You will not be asked about your immigration status when you get a COVID-19 vaccine. Your medical information is private and getting a COVID-19 vaccine does not affect your immigration status. You do not need a government-issued ID or a letter from your employer to get a vaccine. For questions about immigration, visit the Office of Immigrant Affairs webpage oia.lacounty.gov or call 800-593-8222.

Do I need to give a mobile phone number or email address?

No. When you get a vaccine, you will be asked to give an email address or mobile phone number. This information will be entered into the State of California immunization registry (CAIR) so that you can get a digital COVID-19 vaccine record. It may also be used to send reminders if more COVID-19 vaccine doses are due or recommended. The digital vaccine record is a free and convenient way to prove your vaccination status. It is especially useful if you lose your white vaccine card. You don't need to provide your email address or cell number to get a vaccine and a white CDC COVID-19 vaccination card. But this may make it harder to get a digital vaccine record later. You can learn more about the digital vaccination record at myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov and about the confidentiality protections here.

Where can I get a copy of my vaccine record?

The CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (white card) is the official proof of vaccination. Everyone should be given one when they are vaccinated. **Please keep it safe as it cannot be replaced.** Consider taking a photo or making a photocopy of it.

Everyone* who is vaccinated in California can request a digital COVID-19 Vaccination Record at myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov. This is also an official record. It can be downloaded to the Google Pay digital wallet on an Android phone or the Apple Health app on an iPhone. You can also take a screenshot of your

Digital COVID-19 Vaccine Record and save it to your camera roll. You can get a record for each person in your family even if you used the same email address or mobile phone number when they got vaccinated. For more information, visit the [Vaccination Records](#) webpage.

*If you were vaccinated by a federal agency (e.g., Department of Defense, Indian Health Service or Veterans Affairs), you must request a vaccine record from the agency directly.

Do I need to provide consent for my child to be vaccinated?

Youth under 18 need consent from a parent/guardian or caregiver to get vaccinated. If you cannot be present, you may be allowed to give consent by phone, video, or in writing. Check the consent requirements of the place where you plan to go. If it is a location run by Public Health, you can see the requirements and download a consent form at [ph.lacounty.gov/vaccineappointment](#) - click on '[preparing for your visit](#)' or call the Vaccine Call Center at 1-833-540-0473 (8am-8:30pm daily).

Some exceptions apply. Minors ages 15 years or older who are self-sufficient (e.g., emancipated or self-sufficient minor, married, or previously married) can give their own consent. If you are a foster caregiver, relative caregiver, or Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) staff you can provide consent as long as the foster child agrees. If you are a foster caregiver and you do not give consent but your foster child wants to get a vaccine, they can contact their legal counsel.

What documents do I need to bring to get my child vaccinated?

Photo ID may be required at some vaccination locations. If you are a guardian of a child in foster care and your foster child does not have a photo ID, have them contact their legal counsel. Another option is to go to a location run by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, which does not require a photo ID.

See above for information about consent. Check the requirements of the place you plan to go to. They may be found on their webpage or in an appointment confirmation email or text. For information about the requirements at LA County Department of Public Health vaccine sites, visit [ph.lacounty.gov/vaccineappointment](#) - click on '[preparing for your visit](#)' or call the Vaccine Call Center at 1-833-540-0473 (8am-8:30pm daily).

Should I still get vaccinated if I've already had COVID-19?

Yes. You should get a COVID-19 vaccine even if you already had COVID-19. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine after you recover from COVID-19 infection provides added protection against COVID-19.

Getting COVID-19 offers some protection from future illness with COVID-19, sometimes called "natural immunity." The level of protection people get from having COVID-19 may vary depending on how mild or severe their illness was, the time since their infection, and their age. There is currently no test available that can reliably determine if a person is protected from infection.

It is safe to get the vaccine after getting COVID-19, but you should wait until after you have recovered from being sick (if you had symptoms) and your isolation period is over. This is so that you don't infect

healthcare workers and others when you go to get vaccinated.

If you are due for a booster dose and were recently infected, you may choose to delay your booster dose for 3 months after the infection. This is because recent studies have shown that increasing the time between your infection and vaccination may improve your immune response. Also because there is a lower risk of re-infection for the weeks to months after your infection.

If you were sick with multisystem inflammatory syndrome of children or adults (MIS-C or MIS-A), talk with your doctor before getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

Can I get the COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as a different vaccine?

Yes. Adults and children age 5 and over can get a COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as other vaccines, such as measles, whooping cough, and flu. If your child gets a COVID-19 vaccine at a place that doesn't offer the other vaccines that they need, you can go to a different location to get them at any time. There is no need to wait between vaccines.

Can I get a routine medical procedure or screening test if I just had a COVID-19 vaccine?

Most routine medical procedures or screenings can be done before or after getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

Note: if you are due for a routine screening mammogram and have been recently vaccinated for COVID-19, ask your doctor how long you should wait before you get your mammogram. People who have received a COVID-19 vaccine may get swelling in the lymph nodes (called lymphadenopathy) in the underarm near where they got the shot. This swelling is a normal sign that the body is building protection against COVID-19. This temporary swelling could cause a false reading on a mammogram, so it is important to tell the staff about your vaccination. For more details, see the Society of Breast Imaging's [Recommendations for Women Receiving the COVID-19 Vaccine](#).

The COVID-19 vaccine can also affect the results of some kinds of screening tests for tuberculosis (TB), see the CDC webpage [COVID-19 Vaccination and Other Medical Procedures](#).

How should I prepare for my visit to get a vaccination?

- Remember to bring the required documentation and your email address or mobile phone number if you have one. If you made an appointment, read the information in the confirmation email. If you have any questions, It may be helpful to write them down.
- You should receive a paper or electronic version of a fact sheet that tells you more about the specific COVID-19 vaccine you are getting. Each approved and authorized COVID-19 vaccine has its own fact sheet that contains information to help you understand the risks and benefits of receiving that specific vaccine. Learn more about [different COVID-19 vaccines](#).
- Plan to stay at the appointment for up to an hour. This includes 15-30 minutes for you to be observed after you receive your vaccination.
- Do not stop your routine medicines before getting vaccinated unless your doctor recommends it.

- It is not recommended you take over-the-counter medicine (such as ibuprofen, aspirin, or acetaminophen) before vaccination to try to prevent vaccine-related side effects. It is not known how these medications might affect how well the vaccine works. If you take these medications regularly for other reasons, you should keep taking them before you get vaccinated. It is also not recommended to take antihistamines before getting a COVID-19 vaccine to try to prevent allergic reactions.

- Wear a mask and clothing that will allow easy access to your upper arm where the vaccine will be given. Eat a light snack before your appointment and stay hydrated (bring extra water, just in case).

- If you need to get another dose of COVID-19 vaccine, make sure that you know how and when to get it before you leave the vaccination site.

Where can I get more information?

- To print or view this FAQ or FAQs on other COVID-19 vaccine topics, scan the QR code or visit COVID-19 vaccine FAQs.
- VaccinateLACounty.com – including COVID-19 Vaccine Schedules with graphics to show when each dose is due and information on How to Get Vaccinated.
- Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine CDC webpage.
- Ask your doctor if you have questions.