



COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Information for Waiver Providers

COVID-19 booster shots have been approved for individuals at higher risk for severe COVID-19 infection. Per Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, many 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver participants and direct support professionals or others who regularly come into contact with waiver participants may qualify.

It is important to note there is a separate CDC recommendation that immunocompromised individuals receive an **additional shot** of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine beyond the primary, two-shot vaccine series. This is not the same as a **booster shot**.

- A **booster shot** is given at least six months after the individual completed their primary series to boost immunity that has decreased over time.
- An **additional shot** is given at least 28 days after the individual completed their primary series to improve the body's response to the vaccine.

The CDC only recommends an additional shot for immunocompromised individuals at this time. A booster shot is not recommended.

Providers can use the [COVID-19 Vaccination Decision Tree](#) from the Kentucky Department of Public Health when helping a participant determine if they need a booster shot or additional dose. The decision tree is available **at the end of this guide** or [online](#). There is also a [Booster and Additional Dose Flow Chart](#) available online for your use.

Securing a COVID-19 Booster Shot Appointment

Individuals should be able to get a COVID-19 booster shot at any location that is offering COVID-19 vaccinations. The CDC says individuals receiving a **booster shot** can be given any of the approved COVID-19 vaccines even if it is a different type from their primary series.

There are several ways to locate a vaccine appointment:

- Online at vaccine.ky.gov or vaccines.gov/search
 - These sites allow you to search by vaccine type.
- By Phone
 - Individuals can text their zip code to 438829 (English) or 822862 (Spanish) to receive a list of three vaccine locations near them.
 - Individuals can call (855) 598-2246 for help scheduling an appointment.

Help for Participants Needing COVID-19 Vaccination, an Additional Dose, or

There is help available to waiver participants as they determine whether they need a booster and schedule an appointment.

- Have them talk to their **primary doctor** if they have questions about the vaccine or whether they are recommended for a booster shot.
- **The state of Kentucky COVID-19 hotline** can answer general questions about the vaccine. The hotline is available at (800) 722-5725 from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.
- Booster shots are being offered at **no charge**, however, the participant's [insurance may be billed](#) to cover the cost.



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- **If a participant needs a ride to a vaccination site**, transportation agencies across the state are offering free rides.
 - View the list of [Kentucky transportation agencies providing free public transport](#) to COVID vaccine sites. A mask must be worn on public transportation.

DMS recognizes many waiver participants will require extra support to determine if they need a booster shot and to secure an appointment. [Appendix K](#) allows case managers/support brokers/service advisors to bill an extra unit to help participants who need the following support:

- Determining eligibility for the COVID-19 vaccine or booster.
- Facilitating discussion with healthcare providers regarding any concerns or potential risks.
- Scheduling transportation to a COVID-19 vaccine site.
- Scheduling vaccine appointments.

Other Resources for Participants

The following resources are available to help 1915(c) HCBS waiver participants and providers navigate COVID-19 vaccines and booster shots.

[COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shot website](#)

[CDC COVID-19 Information for Immunocompromised Individuals website](#)

COVID-19 Booster Information for Participants: <https://bit.ly/COVIDBoosterforParticipants>

Guide to Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine: <https://bit.ly/kycovidvaccineguide>

Other Resources for Providers

Providers who discuss the COVID-19 vaccine with participants may find the following resources helpful.

[Talking with Patients about the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[Talking with the Immunocompromised about the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions from the American Medical Association](#)

[Addressing COVID-19 Misinformation](#)

COVID-19 VACCINATION DECISION TREE

Pfizer-BioNtech Vaccine
0.3ml x 2 doses 21 days apart

Moderna
0.5 ml X 2 doses 28 days apart

Janssen (J&J) Vaccine
0.5 ml single dose

Moderate to severely
Immunocompromised

3rd Additional Dose
>=28 days after
primary series completed.
Same dose as primary
series+

***Pfizer-BioNtech Dose 0.3ml**
**≥ 6months after primary series
completed**

- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ who live in [long-term care settings](#)
- Age 18+ who have [underlying medical conditions](#)
- Age 18+ who work in [high-risk settings](#)
- Age 18+ who live in [high-risk settings](#)

***Moderna Dose 0.25ml**
**≥ 6months after primary series
completed**

- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ who live in [long-term care settings](#)
- Age 18+ who have [underlying medical conditions](#)
- Age 18+ who work in [high-risk settings](#)
- Age 18+ who live in [high-risk settings](#)

***Janssen (JJ) Dose 0.5ml**
**≥ 2 months after primary
series completed**

>= 18 years old

***Providers may provide heterologous ("mix and match") booster doses to eligible individuals following completion of primary vaccination**

+Those individuals that are moderately or severely immunocompromised may receive a total of four COVID-19 vaccine doses