

Booster Shot and Third Dose Information

October 31, 2021

Additional COVID-19 vaccine doses can improve protection against COVID-19 for older adults, those with certain medical conditions, and other groups at higher risk.

- [Booster doses](#)
Booster doses provide additional immunity when the immune response from the first two vaccine doses has decreased over time (at least 6 months).
- [Third vaccine doses](#)
Third doses benefit those with severely compromised immune systems when given at least 4 weeks after a two-dose Pfizer or Moderna vaccine series.

Booster Vaccinations

A single booster dose is recommended for certain groups, based on the type of COVID-19 vaccine they have already received.

Pfizer and Moderna

For those who have already received both doses of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine **at least six months ago**, the following groups are eligible for a booster dose.

- Adults aged 65 years and older
- Long-term care facility residents
- Adults aged 18 and older with certain [underlying medical conditions](#) ([see below](#))
- Adults aged 18 and older in [high risk settings](#) that increase their risk of exposure:
 - First responders (healthcare workers, firefighters, police, congregate care staff)
 - Education staff (teachers, support staff, daycare workers)
 - Food and agriculture workers
 - Manufacturing workers
 - Corrections workers
 - U.S. Postal Service workers
 - Public transit workers
 - Grocery store workers

Johnson & Johnson

Anyone 18 and older who was vaccinated with Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine at least **two months ago** is eligible for a booster.

Mixing vaccine types

Eligible individuals may receive a booster dose of **any** of type of COVID-19 vaccine currently available: Moderna, Pfizer or Johnson & Johnson.

Getting a Booster Dose

- Get the booster on campus at the health center (Infirmary). To schedule an appointment call (662) 644-4865.
- Check with your doctor, a pharmacy, or other vaccination provider about getting a COVID-19 booster dose. [Find a vaccination provider »](#)
- Booster doses for Pfizer vaccine recipients are available at county health departments. Use the online scheduler below, or call the Mississippi COVID-19 Hotline at 877-978-6453 for assistance.

Third Vaccine Doses

A third dose of COVID-19 vaccine can provide added protection if you have a medical condition that affects your immune system and you are at high risk for developing more serious illness from COVID-19.

Third vaccine doses are available only for those who received Moderna or Pfizer vaccine, and whose last shot was at least 4 weeks ago.

Qualifying Conditions

You qualify for a third dose of Moderna or Pfizer vaccine if you:

- Have been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Have moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Have advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Are receiving active treatment with high-dose steroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response
- Have any other medical condition that your provider says will limit your immune response

Getting a Third Dose

You can schedule an additional vaccination dose at a county health department or through your doctor or regular health care provider.

- **Make an appointment at the Health Center (Infirmary) (662) 644-4865**

- **Consult your doctor** or a health care provider. They can evaluate your health status and determine whether you need an additional vaccination dose. If you do, they will provide the vaccination.
- **Schedule a third dose appointment at a county health department**
You'll be asked questions about qualifying for additional vaccination and be able to select a county health department for an appointment