



National Indian Health Board NATIONAL TRIBAL COVID-19 RESPONSE

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COVID-19 Vaccines Available to Tribal Communities

There are three safe and effective vaccines that have been authorized for use in the United States to prevent COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccines help to reduce the risk of people spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. The Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty), Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson (J&J) vaccines are important tools in fighting COVID-19 and helping you get closer to connecting with family, friends and your community. You should still get vaccinated if you have already had COVID-19. All Tribal citizens are encouraged to get vaccinated to protect elders, youth, the community, and themselves. Tribal citizens ages 5 and up are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. For more information about how to protect your Tribal community please visit the [National Indian Health Board COVID-19 Tribal Resource Center](#).

COVID-19 Vaccines Available in the United States

Authorized/Approved Vaccine	Type of Vaccine	Who is eligible?	How many doses?
Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty)	mRNA	5 years and above*	2 doses 21 days apart
Moderna	mRNA	18 years and above	2 doses 28 days apart
Johnson & Johnson	Viral	18 years and above	1 dose

As of October 29, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized the emergency use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19 to include children 5-11 years old. Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for youth ages 5-11 is administered as a two-dose primary series, 21 days apart, but is a lower dose (10 micrograms) than the one used for individuals 12 years of age and older (30 micrograms).

- The FDA amended the emergency use authorization (EUA) for both the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines authorizing use of a single booster dose.
 - All recipients of Moderna or Pfizer may receive a single COVID-19 vaccine booster dose 5 months or more after the completion of their primary vaccine series.
 - People ages 12 and older who received Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine can receive a single COVID-19 vaccine booster dose 5 months or more after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary dose.
 - People ages 18 and older who received the Moderna primary series should receive a single COVID-19 vaccine booster dose 5 months or more after their Moderna primary dose.
 - People ages 18 and older who received the J&J primary series should receive a single COVID-19 vaccine booster dose 2 months or more after their J&J primary dose.
 - Currently, a booster dose is not recommended in people under 12 years old.

COVID-19 Vaccine Facts

- Vaccines cannot give you COVID-19.
- The COVID-19 vaccine will not change your DNA.
- People are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after their second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech (now Comirnaty) or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines, or 2 weeks after the single-dose Johnson & Johnson Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.
- COVID-19 vaccines will be provided free of charge. If anyone asks you to pay for access to a COVID-19 vaccine, you can bet it's a scam. You shouldn't share any personal or financial information if someone calls, texts, or emails you promising access to a vaccine for an extra fee.
- You may have side effects after vaccination. These are normal and should go away in a few days. If your side effects are worrying, or do not seem to be going away after a few days, call your doctor or your Tribal healthcare provider.



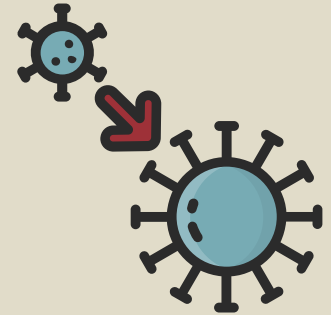
COVID-19 Vaccines are Safe and Effective

- COVID-19 vaccines have undergone the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history.
 - This monitoring includes using both established and new safety monitoring systems to make sure that COVID-19 vaccines are safe.
- COVID-19 vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. It typically takes 2 weeks after vaccination for the body to build protection (immunity) against the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Immune responses of children 5-11 years old were comparable to those of individuals 16-25 years old. In addition, the vaccine was found to be 90.7% effective in children ages 5-11.
 - The vaccine's safety was studied in over 3,000 children ages 5-11 who received the vaccine and no serious side effects have been detected in the ongoing study. The FDA has determined this Pfizer vaccine has met the criteria for emergency use authorization (EUA).

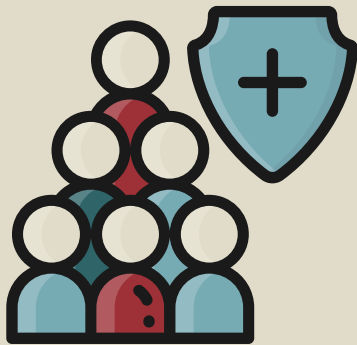


Vaccines and New COVID-19 Variants

- COVID-19 vaccines are effective at helping prevent severe illness and death from variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 that are currently circulating, including the Delta and Omicron variants.
- The Delta variant causes more infections and spreads faster than earlier forms of the virus that causes COVID-19.
 - It may also cause more severe illness than previous strains in unvaccinated people.
 - Fully vaccinated people with breakthrough infections from the Delta variant appear to be infectious for a shorter period.
- Compared to the Delta variant, how the Omicron variant spreads remains unknown. But, what CDC experts know is that the increase in infections by the Omicron variant are most likely due to a combination of two factors: the capability of this variant to avoid immunity granted by previous infection or vaccination and increased transmissibility of the Omicron variant. The Omicron variant spreads more easily than the original SARS-CoV-2 virus and anyone with Omicron infection can spread the virus to others, even if they are vaccinated or do not have any COVID-19 symptoms.



Where Can You Receive a COVID-19 Vaccine?



- To find out where to get a COVID-19 vaccination, visit your Tribal health center or IHS facility and ask your healthcare provider.
 - A list of Tribal, urban, and federal facilities that receive the COVID-19 vaccine from IHS is available [here](#).
- Check with your local Tribal Health Department, pharmacy and/or clinic to see if the vaccine is available.
- Ask a friend or loved one where they received their COVID-19 vaccine.
- Find a COVID-19 Vaccine, search [vaccines.gov](#) online, text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you

For more information, or to learn more about frequently asked questions, visit the [CDC website](#).
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/omicron-variant.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/forecasting/mathematical-modeling-outbreak.html>

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For more information, visit NIHB's National Tribal COVID-19 Response page at [www.nihb.org](#)