

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

October 4, 2021

What you should know

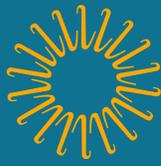
- All Rhode Islanders 12 years of age and older are eligible for their initial COVID-19 vaccination.
- Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic.
- The current COVID vaccines **do** provide protection against the Delta variant, and greatly reduce the risk of severe or life-threatening infection.
- Everyone who is eligible should get a booster dose when it becomes available.

Booster Doses

- The CDC recommends that people with weakened immune systems should receive an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after the 2nd dose.
- Booster doses for certain individuals who received the **Pfizer** vaccine more than 6 months ago are now recommended for people who are:
 - 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](#)
- Currently, the approval does not apply to individuals who received the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccines. We expect this to change soon and will update this sheet when it does.

Where you can receive the vaccine

- Any Coastal patient who wants a vaccine can call their office to make arrangements for administration.
- Vaccinations are also available at state-run vaccination sites and retail pharmacies on a walk-in basis.



COVID-19 Vaccine

Frequently Asked Questions

Should I get the COVID vaccine?

Yes, everyone who is eligible (currently 12 years of age & older) should get the vaccine.

Should I get the booster?

Yes, everyone who is eligible should get the booster when it becomes available.

Who is eligible for the booster?

At this time, the eligibility for booster doses is limited to people who have received the **Pfizer** vaccine at least six months ago and are:

- 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](#)

Will my Coastal doctor write me a note, so I don't have to get the COVID vaccine?

No, the medical reasons for not getting a vaccine are exceedingly rare and Coastal will not provide notes granting vaccine exemption.

Can I get the Influenza vaccine (Flu shot) when I get the COVID vaccine?

Yes, the Flu shot and the COVID vaccine can be given at the same time.