

# COVID-19 VACCINE

## Latest Updates & Resources



Dec. 15, 2021

### BOOSTERS APPROVED FOR 16- TO 17-YEAR OLDS

Last week the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [authorized](#) the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to be used as a booster dose for individuals ages 16 and 17, six months after their last dose. The booster dose is the same dosage as the primary series, and anyone younger than 18 must receive Pfizer, as it's the only vaccine authorized for that age group. Anyone can find a vaccine clinic for boosters or primary doses at [OurShot.IN.gov](#).



#### More booster news:

- The Indiana Department of Health created an [updated chart](#) on mixing doses.
- Reminder: Look for the **RED** pin on [OurShot.IN.gov](#) for clinics offering the Pfizer pediatric dose for children age 5 to 11.

### WAIT TIME AFTER RECEIVING BOOSTER DOSE

The recommended wait time is 15 minutes after a booster dose of any of the COVID-19 vaccines, even if you did not experience any adverse event from your primary series shots.



**Remember:** If you are 18 years or older you may choose which COVID-19 vaccine you receive as a booster shot. Some people may prefer the vaccine type that they originally received, and others may prefer to get a different booster. CDC's recommendations now allow for this type of [mix and match dosing](#) for booster shots.



To date, **3,510,140** Hoosiers have been fully vaccinated!

### VACCINES and OMICRON VARIANT

According to the CDC, current vaccines are expected to protect against severe illness, hospitalizations and deaths due to infection with the Omicron variant. Vaccine manufacturer Pfizer issued a [news release](#) on its COVID-19 vaccine's effectiveness against this new mutation, and the CDC created an [Omicron webpage](#) with information, recommendations and a list of states where it has been detected. The best protection against the new variant is to be fully vaccinated and to get a booster dose when you're eligible. Indiana has not yet reported any cases caused by the Omicron variant.



### FLYING RULES UPDATED

Flying to the U.S. from a foreign country? As of **Dec. 6**, all air passengers, regardless of vaccination status, must show a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 1 day before travel to the United States. Here is an [easy-to-understand chart](#) to clarify the new guidance. A reminder that a federal order is still in place requiring face masks be worn by all people while on public transportation.

### FACEBOOK PROFILE FRAMES

As our vaccination numbers go up, the number of Hoosiers sick and hospitalized goes down. For our hesitant friends and family, a profile picture is a great way to say, "Ask me about my COVID vaccination." Be sure you are logged into your Facebook account, and choose from several frames launched by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the CDC [HERE](#).



### VACCINE CLINIC CONTINUES AT IMS

**IndyCar parking lot, 4551 W. 16th St., Indy**

#### Dates & Times

**Dec. 15 – Dec. 22**

Wednesday, Dec. 15 to Friday, Dec. 17 | Noon – 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 18 and Sunday, Dec. 19 | 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 20 – Wednesday, Dec. 22 | noon – 8 p.m.



### Helpful Resources

- What you can do if you are [fully vaccinated](#).
- Know a homebound individual who needs a vaccine? Call 211. Agents can help.
- Get proof of vaccination at [Access Indiana](#). Look for "Indiana Vaccination Portal".
- Register for a vaccination appointment at [OurShot.IN.gov](#) (*Chrome or Firefox*). Call Indiana 211 or (1-866-211-9966) if you have difficulty registering online.
- Free rides to vaccine clinics are offered by IU Health. Call 1.888.IUHEALTH (1.888.484.3258) and choose option 9.
  - Free rides are also available to vaccination appointments at select [Kroger locations](#). You will receive a code to use for Lyft ridesharing service with your appointment confirmation.
- [Learn about V-Safe](#), the after-vaccination health checker, and the new [V-safe COVID-19 Pregnancy Registry](#).
- V-safe is also available now in [multiple languages](#).
- Report any adverse effects from any vaccine to the [Vaccine Adverse Effect Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#).