

Philadelphia COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter

Philadelphia Department of Public Health

UPCOMING COVID-19 VACCINE CLINICS:

[Attached is a flyer containing a list of COVID-19 vaccination events scheduled to take place on 4/18 - 4/22.](#)

The Latest Numbers

- In Philadelphia, as of April 12, 2022:
 - 1,550,955 people ages 18 and up (95%) got at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.
 - 1,256,756 people ages 18 and up are fully vaccinated.
 - 93.6% of people ages 12 and up and 35.7% of children 5-11 years old have received at least one dose of the Pfizer vaccine.
 - 427,495 people ages 18 and up (32.6%) have received booster doses.
- Find the newest information on the PDPH COVID-19 webpage at phila.gov/COVID, PDPH [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

The Latest News

- **The City of Philadelphia moves to Level 2: Mask Precautions**
 - On Monday, April 11, Philadelphia moved to Level 2: Mask Precautions.
 - More information below and at <https://bit.ly/0411Level2>.
- **How to get home tests if you do not have insurance:**
 - Each household can place 2 orders of 4 free tests, for 8 tests total. Order at <https://www.covidtests.gov>.
 - Pick up free tests at a COVID-19 resource hub or distribution event run by the Health Department: <https://bit.ly/COVIDhometest>.
 - No insurance or ID is required.
 - Everyone is eligible to receive 1 at-home test kit.
 - PDPH staff is available on site to provide instructions on how to use the test, isolation and quarantine guidance, and answer any questions.
- **How to get home tests paid for if you do not have insurance:**
 - Health insurance companies are required to reimburse 8 at-home tests per month for each person enrolled in the plan and will reimburse up to \$12 per individual test.
 - Submit receipts for tests that you have purchased to your health plan, along with any other necessary documentation that is required.
 - Detailed information here: <https://go.cms.gov/3Lqo0Yk>.
- **Stock up on FREE N95 masks**
 - Visit <https://bit.ly/FreeN95s>
- **Register for the In-Home COVID-19 Vaccine Program**
 - COVID-19 vaccines and booster shots for anyone over 12 years old who has had trouble getting their vaccine because of disability, health issues, transportation, language or other barriers.
 - Caregivers & family members in the home are eligible
 - Vaccine is free, no insurance or ID required.
 - To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/inhomevaccinephl> or call 311 or 215-685-5488 (Press 5 for interpretation services. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance).

FAQS on the Move to Level 2: Mask Precautions

- **.Why did the city move to Level 2: Mask Precautions?**

- More people are getting COVID-19 in Philadelphia, so the City moved to COVID Response Level 2 on Monday, April 11, 2022, to try and prevent even more people from getting COVID and prevent the need for even more restrictions.
- **What does Level 2: Mask Precautions mean?**
 - Masks are required in indoor public places, so you must put a mask over your nose and mouth whenever you are inside a public place. There is no vaccine requirement for places that serve food or drink.
 - You can still go about your daily life; you just need to wear a mask while in indoor public spaces.
- **Why should I put my mask back on?**
 - Wearing a mask prevents you from passing COVID-19 to others, even if you feel fine.
 - The person next to you may be going through treatment for cancer, they may have a loved one in a nursing home, they may have a new baby at home or a disease that affects their immune system.
 - The person next to you may not be able to fight off the disease, they may get very sick or even die from the COVID-19 virus.
 - Wearing a mask prevents you from getting COVID-19.
 - The person next to you may have been exposed to COVID-19 and doesn't know it, or they may have COVID-19 but don't have symptoms.
- **What are COVID Response Levels?**
 - The COVID Response Levels are a series of measurement intended to openly connect the City's response to the pandemic to what's actually happening with COVID-19 in Philadelphia.
 - When the number of people with COVID goes up, the City will announce guidance to protect our communities.
 - When the number of people with COVID goes down and things become safer, the City will lift those measures.
 - You can learn more here: <https://bit.ly/COVIDResponseLevels>,
- **Why is the city waiting a week to start this requirement?**
 - It takes time for information to get around and for businesses to prepare.
 - COVID-19 is spreading more than it was when we were in Level 1: All Clear, but it is not so fast that we need to move to Level 2: Mask Precautions immediately.
- **Do I need to wait until April 18th to wear a mask indoors?**
 - You can wear a mask indoors now and anytime you want. This is the safer choice.
 - We encourage everyone to do what they need to do to protect themselves and others.
- **What can we do to prevent us from moving to Level 3?**
 - Get vaccinated if you have not already and help the people in your life get vaccinated.
 - Get your booster dose if you are eligible.
 - A booster is an additional dose of vaccine that improves (boosts) your protection.
 - Currently, the following groups of people should get a booster dose:
 - First booster doses are available for anyone 12+ who got a 2nd dose of Pfizer at least 5 months ago, anyone 18+ who got a 2nd dose of Moderna at least 5 months ago, and anyone 18+ who got the J&J vaccine at least 2 months ago.
 - Second booster doses are available for anyone 50+ who got their 1st booster at least 4 months ago and anyone 12+ who is immunocompromised and got their 1st booster at least 4 months ago.
 - Booster doses are available anywhere COVID-19 vaccine is offered.
- **Where can I get more information?**
 - Visit <https://bit.ly/0411Level2>.
 - Call 311 or 215-685-5488 (Press #5 for interpretation. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.)

COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

- **Where to find a COVID-19 vaccine:**
 - Call 3-1-1 or visit phila.gov/vaccine or vaccines.gov to find a vaccine clinic near you.
 - For interpretation, call 3-1-1, press #5 and say your language.
 - Sign up for the In-Home COVID vaccine program
 - Visit: <https://bit.ly/inhomevaccinephl>
 - Call 311 or 215-685-5488 (Press 5 for interpretation services. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.)
 - Vaccine is free, no insurance or ID required!
- **Lost Vaccination Card?**
 - Ask your healthcare provider first, if they cannot help, call 215-685-5488 or email covid@phila.gov to request a copy of your vaccine record.
 - The CDC does not provide copies of COVID-19 vaccination card.

MORE INFORMATION

- **Questions on all 3 vaccines from PDPH:** <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH> (English) and from the CDC at <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-CDC> (English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and more)
- Get updates on transportation and access and functional needs resources, as well as an up-to-date access description of City-run clinics at <https://bit.ly/KnowB4Ugo>
- **Disability Health Committee Public Forum – May 2, 2022 at 11am**
 - Register at: <https://bit.ly/0502Forum>
 - Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) and the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities invites you to join us for a conversation focused on the intersection of disability and public health.
 - ASL and Closed Captioning will be provided.
 - For additional ADA accommodations please email Claudia.Tasco@phila.gov or call 215-686-2798 by April 22, 2022.
- **Archived Disability Health Forum video with ASL:** <https://bit.ly/Nov2021DisabilityHealthForum>
 - Includes current topics, FAQs and more. Current as of November 19, 2021
 - For future disability health announcements, contact liam.dougherty@phila.gov
- **Have an upcoming public health event happening in your community?**
 - Send us an email at COVIDVax@phila.gov with a file of your event flyer at least two weeks in advance and we will advertise your event on our social media!

How to Stay Connected

- **Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline** - 800-722-7112, press #9 for interpretation. **Open 24/7!**
 - Talk to a medical professional about COVID-19 symptoms, exposure, vaccine, tests, Etc.
- Text COVIDPHL to 888-777 and get updates on your phone and find the latest information at phila.gov/COVID, facebook.com/phillyhealth and [twitter](https://twitter.com)
- This newsletter is sent to the [Community Response Partner Network](#)
 - To view an archive of past newsletters, please visit <https://hip.phila.gov/newsletters/covid-19-vaccine-newsletter/>.
 - Sign up at <https://bit.ly/phlcommunityresponse> to get essential public health information, then pass it on to your family, friends, and community.
- **Questions or suggestions?** Email us at COVIDVax@phila.gov or leave a message with the Public Health Preparedness Program Outreach Team at 215-429-3016.

Be safe!