

# Philadelphia COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter

## Philadelphia Department of Public Health

**Update:** For the last 2 years, this newsletter has focused on the COVID-19 vaccines. We will continue to provide information on the COVID-19 pandemic but starting with this issue you will see up to date information, news and resources for all public health preparedness topics. As always, your feedback and ideas are appreciated. Please email us at [publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov](mailto:publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov) or leave us a message at (267) 515-4210. Thank you for your support in helping keep Philadelphians safe.

### The Latest News

- **Philadelphia confirms a probable case of Monkeypox**
  - The risk to people living in Philadelphia is extremely low.
  - The current outbreak was first confirmed in a British resident on May 6, 2022.
    - Since then, cases have been confirmed in 29 other non-endemic countries, including the United States.
    - The CDC reports that there are 19 confirmed cases in ten states.
    - Worldwide, there has only been one death associated with this outbreak.
  - More information on Monkeypox in the FAQ below and available here: <https://bit.ly/MonkeypoxPress>
- **PDPH COVID-19 Call Center has interpretation!**
  - Call 215-685-5488 for information on COVID-19 testing, guidance, vaccine and more
    - Press 2 for Spanish.
    - Press 3 for interpretation in your language.
- **Philly Counts Community Health Worker Program**
  - Philly Counts is looking for Community Health Workers to promote positive health outcomes through care referrals and information sharing, while also organizing their local community around the COVID-19 vaccine to improve access to the vaccine and increase vaccine uptake.
  - Compensation is \$20.51/hour.
  - For information and to apply visit: <https://bit.ly/PhillyCountsCHW>
- **The COVID Prevention and Response Fund**
  - Currently accepting donations to aid nonprofits and individuals that are supporting their community through the pandemic: <https://bit.ly/ActionFund2022>
- **Funding for Community Based Organizations working on COVID-19**
  - The City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health's Disease Control division (the Department) is seeking proposals from qualified Applicants in the City of Philadelphia to plan and implement COVID-19 vaccination outreach and awareness campaigns for populations at higher risk, and/or help identify and address other public health preparedness vulnerabilities and priorities at the community level, over a one-year period.
  - The populations of focus for this Request for Proposals (RFP) include:
    - Black/African American communities
    - Hispanic/Latino/Latinx communities
    - Older adults/aging population/especially those who need COVID-19 vaccine boosters
    - Immigrant communities
    - Refugee communities
    - People with disabilities and/or underlying medical conditions
    - Pregnant persons

- People who are houseless
- People living with substance use disorders
- Other populations as identified
- The RFP can be found at: <https://philawx.phila.gov//ECONTRACT/default.aspx>
  - Please follow the link above and review this funding opportunity
    - Opportunity: 21220513111601
    - [New Contract Opportunities] Search under HEALTH
- Please direct any questions you may have to [COVIDVax@phila.gov](mailto:COVIDVax@phila.gov).

#### Latest Events

- **Disability Health Forum, June 16, 2022 11:00am – 1:00pm**
  - **Long Covid, Variants, and Surges: Ongoing Impacts to People with Disabilities**
    - Join us for this multi-part conversation includes perspectives from: The Disability community, Medical Doctors, as well as Allegheny and Philadelphia county health departments.
    - This event is sponsored by the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University, the LEND Center of Pittsburgh Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Mayor's Commission for People with Disabilities in the Office of the Mayor, and the Department of Public Health City of Philadelphia, as well as the Allegheny County Health Department.
  - Register at: [https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_EF8D\\_kZnTSWFDVr5fiwuOA](https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EF8D_kZnTSWFDVr5fiwuOA)
  - ASL and CART available
- **Have an upcoming public health event happening in your community?**
  - Send us an email at [COVIDVax@phila.gov](mailto: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!

#### COVID-19: Resources and Services

- **Latest COVID-19 numbers in Philadelphia as of June 6, 2022.**
  - **Vaccine**
    - 76.8% of people ages 12 and up and 30% of children 5-11 years old are *fully vaccinated*.
    - 94.3% of people ages 12 and up and 37.1% of children 5 – 11 years old have received at least *one dose of the Pfizer vaccine*.
    - 33.3% of people ages 12 and up have received booster doses.
  - **COVID-19 Cases**
    - In the last 2 weeks, Philadelphia is averaging 334 new cases of COVID-19 per day and 12.8% of COVID-19 tests have come back positive.
  - Find the newest information on the PDPH COVID-19 webpage at [phila.gov/COVID](https://phila.gov/COVID), PDPH [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- **Where to find a COVID-19 vaccine:**
  - Call 3-1-1 or visit [phila.gov/vaccine](https://phila.gov/vaccine) or [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov) to find a vaccine clinic near you.
    - For interpretation, call 3-1-1, press #5 and say your language.
    - Visit <https://bit.ly/KnowB4Ugo> for updates on transportation, access and functional needs resources, and up-to-date access descriptions of City-run clinics.
  - Options for COVID-19 vaccines for uninsured residents include:

- Free vaccine at City health centers and pop-up clinics, for insured and uninsured residents. No ID is required at these locations
- Other sites, like pharmacies, may bill your insurance company or charge you a direct fee. Call these sites before you go to find out about their policies.
- More information available at: [www.phila.gov/vaccine](http://www.phila.gov/vaccine) and [bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH](http://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH)
- **What to do if you lost your vaccination card?**
  - Ask your healthcare provider first, if they cannot help, call 215-685-5488 or email [covid@phila.gov](mailto:covid@phila.gov) to request a copy of your vaccine record.
  - The CDC does not provide copies of COVID-19 vaccination card.
- **Stock up on FREE N95 masks**
  - Visit <https://bit.ly/FreeN95s> for free masks from the Strategic National Stockpile
- **Stock up on home tests**
  - How to get FREE home tests even if you do not have insurance:
    - Each household can place **3 orders** of 4 free tests, for 8 tests total.
    - Order at: <https://www.covidtests.gov/>
  - How to get home tests paid for if you do 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've purchased to your health plan, along with any other necessary documentation required by the health plan.
    - Detailed information here: <https://go.cms.gov/3Lqo0Yk>

#### FAQ on MONKEYPOX

- **What is Monkeypox?**
  - Monkeypox is a rare disease that is caused by infection with monkeypox virus. The Orthopoxvirus genus also includes variola virus (which causes smallpox), vaccinia virus (used in the smallpox vaccine), and cowpox virus.
- **How serious is Monkeypox?**
  - Monkeypox appears with fever, rash and swollen lymph nodes and may lead to serious illness in children, older adults, and people who are pregnant.
  - Monkeypox usually lasts from 2 to 4 weeks.
- **How do you become infected with Monkeypox?**
  - Monkeypox can spread when someone comes into contact with the virus from an animal, human, or materials contaminated with the virus.
  - Transmission through humans can occur through large respiratory droplets (coughing, sneezing, kissing). Respiratory droplets generally cannot travel more than a few feet, so extended face-to-face contact is required.
  - Monkeypox can be spread through direct contact with body fluids or rash material, and indirect contact with rash material, such as contaminated clothing or bedding.
- **What are the signs and symptoms of Monkeypox?**
  - Monkeypox begins with fever, headache, muscle aches, and exhaustion.
  - The incubation period (time from infection to symptoms) for monkeypox is usually 7–14 days but can range from 5–21 days.

- Within 1 to 3 days (sometimes longer) after the appearance of fever, people develop a rash, often beginning on the face then spreading to other parts of the body.
- **What are the treatment options?**
  - Currently, there is no proven, safe treatment for monkeypox virus infection.
  - For purposes of controlling a monkeypox outbreak in the United States, smallpox vaccine, antivirals, and vaccinia immune globulin (VIG) can be used.
- **What should I do if I think I have symptoms of Monkeypox?**
  - Seek medical care immediately.
  - Monkeypox is usually a mild illness. Limit contact with others until you speak with a healthcare provider to discuss your symptoms.
- **More information available at:** [bit.ly/MonkeypoxHealth](https://bit.ly/MonkeypoxHealth)

#### More Information On COVID and Monkeypox

- **PDPH Call Center**
  - Call 215-685-5488, Press 3 for interpretation in your language. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.
- **Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline**
  - Call 800-722-7112, press #9 for interpretation. **Open 24/7!**
  - Talk to a medical professional about COVID-19 symptoms, exposure, vaccine, tests, Etc.
- **Frequently asked questions on all 3 vaccines:**
  - From PDPH: <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH> (English)
  - From the CDC: <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-CDC> (English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and more)

#### How to Stay Connected

- **Health and Emergency Updates**
  - Text ReadyPhila to 888-777 and get updates on your phone
  - Find the latest information at [phila.gov/COVID](https://phila.gov/COVID), [facebook.com/phillyhealth](https://facebook.com/phillyhealth) and [twitter@PHLPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/PHLPublicHealth)
- **Join the Community Response Partner Network**
  - This newsletter is sent to the [Community Response Partner Network](#), part of the PDPH Public Health Preparedness Program.
  - 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](mailto:COVIDVax@phila.gov)
  - Leave a message with the Public Health Preparedness Program Outreach Team at 215-429-3016.

Be safe!