

# COVID-19 Vaccines Are Now Available for Children 6 Months to 4 Years Old. Get Your Child Vaccinated Today!

To find a vaccination site, visit [nyc.gov/vaccinefinder](https://nyc.gov/vaccinefinder) or call 877-VAX-4-NYC (877-829-4692). If you have any questions, talk to your child's health care provider or call 212-COVID-19 (212-268-4319) if you do not have a provider.

Vaccines are **safe, effective, free** and **the best way to protect your child** and family from COVID-19, even if your child has been sick with COVID-19 in the past. Parents or guardians must give permission for children to get vaccinated, and children younger than age 15 must have an adult with them.

## Why should children 6 months to 4 years old get vaccinated?

People of all ages can get COVID-19, and more contagious variants have caused children to get very sick, be hospitalized and die from COVID-19, so getting vaccinated now is even more important. Some people also have long-lasting health problems from COVID-19 (also known as long COVID), such as difficulty breathing, muscle and joint pain, headaches and tiredness. Getting children vaccinated also helps protect those around them, especially those at increased risk for severe COVID-19.

## For children ages 6 months to 4 years old, what are the number of doses and time frames by vaccine brand?

There are currently two vaccine options, each with a different number of doses and time frames for getting vaccinated:

- Moderna: ages 6 months to 5 years old
  - Two doses, four to eight weeks apart
- Pfizer: ages 6 months to 4 years old
  - Three doses, three to eight weeks between the first dose and second dose; then eight weeks between the second dose and third dose

## Can my child receive one of the COVID-19 vaccines at their health care provider's office or at a pharmacy?

- Call your provider to make sure they are offering vaccine to make an appointment. While there, ask if your child is up to date with their routine vaccinations to prevent other dangerous diseases, such as measles, mumps, whooping cough and chickenpox. Your child can receive other vaccines at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccine.

**NYC VACCINE FOR ALL:**  
**SAFE, FREE, EASY**

**NYC**



- If you do not have a provider, call 212-COVID-19 (212-268-4319) for help finding one through NYC Health + Hospitals. Care is provided in New York City regardless of immigration status, insurance or ability to pay.
- You can also check with pharmacies to ask if they are offering vaccine to children of your child's age.

### **Will the city be operating any vaccination sites for children?**

Yes. The city is operating 10 sites in July and August to vaccinate children 6 months to 5 years old only. To find a site, visit [nyc.gov/vaccinefinder](https://nyc.gov/vaccinefinder).

### **How do we know the vaccines are safe and work for children?**

The vaccines were thoroughly studied in children 6 months to 4 years old and shown to be very safe and effective. The process was monitored closely by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and independent experts. Tens of millions of children age 5 and older have safely been vaccinated against COVID-19.

### **What are the side effects?**

Children experience similar side effects as adults, including arm soreness where they got the shot, headache or fever, and feeling tired or achy. These are signs the body is building protection. Side effects usually last for one to two days. Serious side effects are very rare and the risks from COVID-19 are far greater.

### **Do children need permission to get vaccinated? Do they need insurance, identification (ID) or other documents?**

A parent or guardian must accompany their child to the vaccination site, give consent in person at the time of the appointment and bring proof of the child's age, such as an ID or birth certificate, or attest to the child's age in person. Parents and guardians do not need to provide immigration status, a social security number or insurance. If a parent or guardian has insurance, it may be billed, but they will not need to pay a copay or other fee.