

# COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

## May 6, 2021

### What we heard this week:

#### **What was the Governor's announcement on loosening restrictions?**

- Effective on May 21<sup>st</sup>:
  - Indoor capacity restrictions will be lifted
  - Masks are still required indoors
  - If you are outdoors, please follow CDC guidance
  - Social distancing requirements will move from 6 feet to 3 feet
    - Social distancing still matters and crowds are risky
      - Wears masks in crowded situations
      - Being seated in bars and restaurants remains a requirement
      - Gatherings with more than 250 people still requires a plan
- You can read more about the [Governor's announcement here](#).

#### **Can I stop wearing a mask outside after one dose of Pfizer or Moderna in light of the new announcement?**

- No. The COVID-19 vaccine does not reach full efficacy until 14 days after your second dose of Pfizer or Moderna.
- It's very important to continue protection protocols even after getting the vaccine because there are still many people who are not vaccinated, or only have received one dose of a two dose series. You remain at higher risk of getting COVID-19 after only one dose of Pfizer and Moderna than you do after getting both doses.
- Medical experts feel very confident that the COVID-19 vaccine can protect you from the virus and help get us all back to normal — but not before a large number of people get the vaccine.
- Getting the vaccine does not give you the all-clear to stop masking up and practicing social distancing.
- It is very important to continue to protect yourself and loved ones, and prevent the spread of COVID-19 — even after you get the vaccine — by continuing wearing a mask indoors and following CDC guidelines outdoors, practicing social distancing, washing your hands, and staying home if you're sick.

#### **Where can I get my vaccine in Delaware if I want one?**

Finding vaccine is easier than ever. You can get them at:

- DPH clinics (all have walk-in hours available)
- Curative
- Pharmacies (Rite Aid and Walgreens are offering walk-in hours)
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (Westside has walk-in hours)
- Hospitals
- Search for a vaccine site near you at [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov)

To find vaccine opportunities, and details on walk-in hours, through the State of Delaware and its partner locations, visit [de.gov/getmyvaccine](https://de.gov/getmyvaccine) or call 1-833-643-1715.

**Why should young people get the vaccine?**

- Vaccines are the best defense we have against infectious diseases.
- There are many reasons to get the vaccine when it becomes available. The most compelling one is that it could protect you and those around you from this life-threatening virus.
- COVID-19 does not discriminate. We have seen completely healthy young people become extremely ill and some even continue to experience effects such as compromised immune systems for as long as a year after. You cannot guarantee that you would only experience a mild case of the disease.
- By getting vaccinated you are giving yourself the best chance at preventing serious illness, hospitalization and death.

**When will we know if children ages 12-15 can get the vaccine?**

The FDA is predicted to authorize Pfizer/BioNTech's coronavirus vaccine in children and teens ages 12 to 15 as early as next week.