

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

# COVID-19 Is Still a Threat



**Wear a Mask and Practice Social Distancing:** Even if you feel well, stay at home as much as possible. In public, keep at least 6 feet distance from others.

New York State continues with its distribution of both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. All licensed child care providers are currently eligible to receive the vaccine in NYS. Search for an [appointment](#).

To stay up to date on New York State's vaccination program visit the [NY COVID-19 Vaccine Tracker](#)

**As per the CDC:**

The first COVID-19 vaccines are here. Supply from the Federal Government is extremely limited. Additional New Yorkers will become eligible as the vaccine supply increases. While the vaccination process is underway, every New Yorker should wear a mask, social distance and avoid small and large gatherings.

Over seven million New Yorkers are now [eligible](#) for the vaccine. Eligible groups include doctors, nurses and health care workers, people age 65 and over, first responders, teachers, public transit workers, grocery store workers and public safety workers.

Beginning February 15, New Yorkers with certain [comorbidities and underlying conditions](#) will be eligible to receive the vaccine.

Vaccines are available at pharmacies, hospitals and through local health departments statewide – please contact your provider of choice to schedule your vaccine appointment. You can use this website for scheduling a first-dose appointment at a New York State-run site only. To determine eligibility and schedule a first-dose appointment at one of these sites, use the [Am I Eligible app](#). Remember: Both vaccines require two doses for effectiveness. Your second-dose appointment will be scheduled automatically at the time you receive your first vaccine dose. *Appointments are not transferrable.*

Once vaccinated you must continue to wash hands, physically distance, and wear a mask. CDC advises that correct and consistent [mask use](#) is a critical step everyone can take to reduce their risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. Masks work best [when everyone wears them](#), but not all masks provide the same protection. How well a mask fits, how well it filters the air, and how many layers it has are all important to consider when choosing which mask to wear. Wearing a mask around people who do not live with you or [when someone in your house is sick](#) is now even more critical with the increased spread of [new COVID-19 variants](#), some of which appear to spread more easily and quickly than the original virus that causes COVID-19.

### **General Principles for Mask Use**

Below are some [general principles](#) for mask use.

#### **Masks should:**

- Completely cover the nose **and** mouth
- Fit snugly against the sides of the face and not have any gaps
- Be handled [only by the ear loops, cords](#), or head straps (not by the surface of the mask)

#### **Masks should be worn:**

- Any time you are in a public setting
- [Any time you are traveling](#) on a plane, bus, train, or other form of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations
- When you are around people who do not live with you, including inside your home or inside someone else's home
- Inside your home if someone you live with is sick with [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19

#### **Masks should not be worn:**

- By a child under 2 years of age
- By someone with a disability who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, for reasons related to the disability
- In a situation when wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace health, safety, or job duty as determined by the workplace risk assessment

Please watch this [educational video](#) from Westchester Medical Center for more information on the COVID-19 vaccine.

New York State also has several informational videos on the COVID-19 vaccines called Fireside Chats these videos can be accessed [here](#)