



National Indian Health Board
**NATIONAL TRIBAL
 COVID-19 RESPONSE**

910 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE | Washington, D.C. 20003 | 202-507-4070 | www.nihb.org

COVID-19 Vaccines Available to Tribal Communities

There are three safe and effective vaccines that have been authorized for use in the United States to prevent COVID-19. Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty), Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson (J&J) vaccines are important tools in fight against COVID-19 and helping you get closer to connecting with family, friends and your community. All Tribal citizens are encouraged to get vaccinated to protect elders, youth, the community, and themselves. Tribal citizens ages 12 and up are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. For more information about how to protect your Tribal community please visit the [National Indian Health Board COVID-19 Tribal Resource Center](#).

COVID-19 Vaccines Available in the United States

Authorized/Approved Vaccine	Type of Vaccine	Who is eligible?	How many doses?
Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty)	mRNA	12 years and above	2 doses 21 days apart**
Moderna	mRNA	16 years and above	2 doses 28 days apart
Johnson & Johnson	Viral	18 years and above	1 dose

** On August 18, 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released a [joint statement](#) from public health and medical experts on the Biden Administration’s plan for COVID-19 booster shots for the American people. Once approved booster shots will be given eight months after a person's second vaccine dose. At this time there is not a recommendation for a Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine booster.

- Check with your IHS or Tribal healthcare provider, local pharmacy, hospital, or clinic to see if they offer COVID-19 vaccinations.
- Parents and caregivers, check your child's healthcare provider or your Tribal healthcare provider about whether they offer COVID-19 vaccinations.
- COVID-19 vaccines are available for everyone aged 12 and older at no cost.

COVID-19 Vaccine Facts

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. All COVID-19 vaccines used in the United States were tested in clinical studies involving thousands of people, including American Indians and Alaska Natives.
- People are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after their second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech (now Comirnaty) or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines, or 2 weeks after the single-dose Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.
- The COVID-19 vaccines will be provided free of charge. If anyone asks you to pay for access to a COVID-19 vaccine, you can bet it's a scam. You shouldn't share any personal or financial information if someone calls, texts, or emails you promising access to a vaccine for an extra fee.
- COVID-19 vaccines are effective at helping prevent against severe illness and death from variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 that are currently circulating, including the Delta variant
- You may have side effects after vaccination. These are normal and should go away in a few days.
- Vaccines cannot give you COVID-19
- The COVID-19 vaccine will not change your DNA.
- You should still get vaccinated if you have already had COVID-19. It is rare but possible to get COVID-19 again. Vaccination is the best way to protect elders, children, and your community.
- Tribal citizens who are taking medications or have a condition that weaken the immune system, should talk to their IHS or Native healthcare provider to discuss their activities. They may need to keep taking all precautions to prevent COVID-19



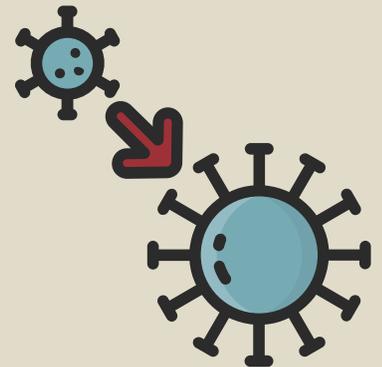
COVID-19 Vaccines are Safe and Effective

- COVID-19 vaccines have undergone the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history
 - This monitoring includes using both established and new safety monitoring systems to make sure that COVID-19 vaccines are safe.
- COVID-19 vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. It typically takes 2 weeks after vaccination for the body to build protection (immunity) against the virus that causes COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccines help to reduce the risk of people spreading the virus that causes COVID-19
- As of August 23, 2021, the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (now being marketed as Comirnaty) has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the prevention of COVID-19 disease in individuals aged 16 and older. The vaccine is available in IHS and Tribal health systems
 - The Comirnaty vaccine continues to be available under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for youth aged 12-15, and for the administration of a third dose in certain immunocompromised individuals.



Vaccines and New COVID-19 Variants

- The Delta variant causes more infections and spreads faster than earlier forms of the virus that causes COVID-19.
 - It may also cause more severe illness than previous strains in unvaccinated people.
- FDA-authorized and approved COVID-19 vaccines protect against Delta and other known variants.
- Vaccines continue to be highly effective at preventing hospitalization and death, including against the Delta variant.
- People who are vaccinated are less likely to spread COVID-19.
- Fully vaccinated people with breakthrough infections from the Delta variant appear to be infectious for a shorter period



Where Can You Receive a COVID-19 Vaccine?



- Vaccines are widely accessible in the United States. Everyone aged 12 years and older should get a COVID-19 vaccination as soon as possible
- To find out where to get a COVID-19 vaccination, visit your Tribal health center or IHS facility and ask your healthcare provider.
 - A list of Tribal, urban, and federal facilities that receive the COVID-19 vaccine from IHS is available [here](#).
- Check with your local Tribal Health Department, pharmacy and/or clinic to see if the vaccine is available.
- Ask a friend or loved one where they received their COVID-19 vaccine.
- Find a COVID-19 Vaccine, search [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) online, text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you

For more information, or to learn more about frequently asked questions, visit the [CDC website](#).

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

