



Teachers, School Staff, and Childcare Workers: How to Get Vaccinated

On March 2nd, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued a directive that all states immediately make eligible teachers, school staff, and childcare workers for COVID-19 vaccination across all vaccination providers.

Additionally, pharmacy locations that are part of CDC's Federal Retail Pharmacy Program are now giving priority to school staff and childcare workers for COVID-19 vaccination during the month of March.



A safe and effective vaccine to protect against COVID-19 is now available. www.cdc.gov

Who can get vaccinated?

- Teachers and staff in
 - Pre-K–12 schools
 - Childcare centers
 - Head Start and Early Head Start programs
- Licensed childcare providers, including center-based and family care providers
- Classroom aides
- Bus drivers
- Janitors
- Counselors
- Administration staff
- Cafeteria workers
- Substitute teachers

In addition to existing state and local COVID-19 vaccination sites, teachers and staff in pre-Kindergarten to grade 12 (pre-K–12 schools) and childcare workers will be able to sign up for an appointment at more than 9,000 participating pharmacy locations nationwide.

How do I schedule a vaccine appointment?

Teachers, school staff, and childcare workers who are interested in getting vaccinated should:

- Visit [VaccineFinder.org](https://www.vaccinefinder.org) to find out where vaccine is available in your community.
- Visit the [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program](https://www.fda.gov/retail-pharmacy-program) website to see which pharmacies are participating in your state. Most pharmacy partners are using online scheduling systems to schedule vaccination appointments for those eligible based on their limited vaccine supply. Check your local pharmacy's website to sign up.
- Contact your [state health department's website](#) to find additional providers in your area.



Visit [CDC's Schools and Child Care Programs page](https://www.cdc.gov/schools-and-child-care-programs) for more information on school reopening and strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19.



www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines

Federal Retail Pharmacy Program – Teachers, School Staff and Childcare Workers
Frequently Asked Questions for the General Public

Q: When will the federal retail pharmacy program begin prioritizing the vaccination of teachers, school staff, and childcare workers? Is this immediate?

A: On March 2nd, HHS issued a directive that all states immediately make eligible teachers, school staff, and childcare workers for COVID-19 vaccination. Starting the week of March 8, the [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program](#) will prioritize vaccinating these individuals during the month of March.

Q. Who will be eligible for vaccination?

A: The following will be eligible:

- Teachers and staff in pre-Kindergarten to grade 12th schools;
- Licensed childcare centers and family childcare providers;
- Head Start and Early Head Start; and
- Pre-K through 12th grade classroom aides, bus drivers, janitors, counselors, administration staff, cafeteria workers.

Q: Are substitute teachers eligible for vaccination under this directive?

A: Yes.

Q: Are childcare workers employed by private households (e.g. nannies) eligible?

A: No. Childcare workers employed by private households are not covered under this directive.

Q: Where can teachers, school staff, and childcare workers find more information to schedule their appointments?

A: To find where to get vaccinated, CDC has created a [webpage](#) that lists the pharmacy partners currently participating in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program in your state. Teachers, school staff, and childcare workers who are interested in getting vaccinated at their local pharmacy can also check the pharmacy's website to find out if COVID-19 vaccine is available. Participating locations for the federal retail pharmacy program are also listed on www.vaccinefinder.org.

Q: I am a teacher and am trying to get vaccinated. Why can I not find an appointment at any of the pharmacies that are part of this directive?

A: COVID-19 vaccine supply continues to be limited, and demand continues to exceed supply. However, teachers, school staff, and childcare workers are being prioritized for appointments in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program throughout the month of March. Appointments can be booked directly through the pharmacy partners.

To find where to get vaccinated, CDC has created a [webpage](#) that lists the pharmacy partners currently participating in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program in your state. Teachers, school staff, and childcare workers who are interested in getting vaccinated at their local pharmacy can also check the pharmacy's website to find out if COVID-19 vaccine is available. Participating locations for the federal retail pharmacy program are also listed on www.vaccinefinder.org.

Q: Can I book a vaccination appointment at pharmacies that are part of Federal Retail Pharmacy Program if I belong to another population group that is state-eligible?

A: Pharmacies will honor all existing appointments. Pharmacies will set aside unbooked vaccination slots starting the week of March 8 and continuing throughout the month of March for teachers, school staff

and childcare workers. If extra slots are available, these will be expanded to other populations that meet state eligibility criteria.

Q. Will teachers get priority at other vaccination locations or just pharmacies?

A: Teachers, school staff, and childcare workers are being prioritized for vaccination appointments through the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program throughout the month of March. Additionally, the President has directed all states and jurisdictions to ensure teachers, school staff, and childcare workers are listed as a currently eligible priority group in their vaccination plans.

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