Protect Your Child from
COVID-19

You want to do everything you can to keep you child safe and healthy. Getting your child vaccinated is one more way you can help protect them from COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccine is now recommended for children 6 months of age and older. Getting your child vaccinated helps them stay safe in school, child care, and other activities.

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe. Vaccine safety is very important. The vaccines were carefully studied and were shown to be safe before they were recommended to be given to children and teens.
- Children can get very sick from COVID-19. The vaccines help keep children from getting very sick or going to the hospital from COVID-19.
- Your child may have some side effects after vaccination, which are normal signs that their body is building protection against the virus. It is OK if they do not have side effects. In fact, younger children may experience fewer side effects after COVID-19 vaccination than teens or young adults.
- It's important to get your child vaccinated even if they have already had COVID-19 because vaccination gives added protection.
- COVID-19 vaccines are free, and you do not have to have insurance to get vaccinated.
- COVID-19 vaccine does not cause infertility.

How to get your child vaccinated

- Check with your pediatrician or family medicine clinic about appointments.
- Visit mn.gov/vaxforkids to find and contact providers or pharmacies near you, including:
  ◊ Pediatric and family medicine clinics, primary care providers, federally qualified health centers, local public health agencies, tribal health agencies, state community sites and clinics, and Indian Health Service locations.
- Watch for vaccination clinics being offered at schools or other community locations in your area.
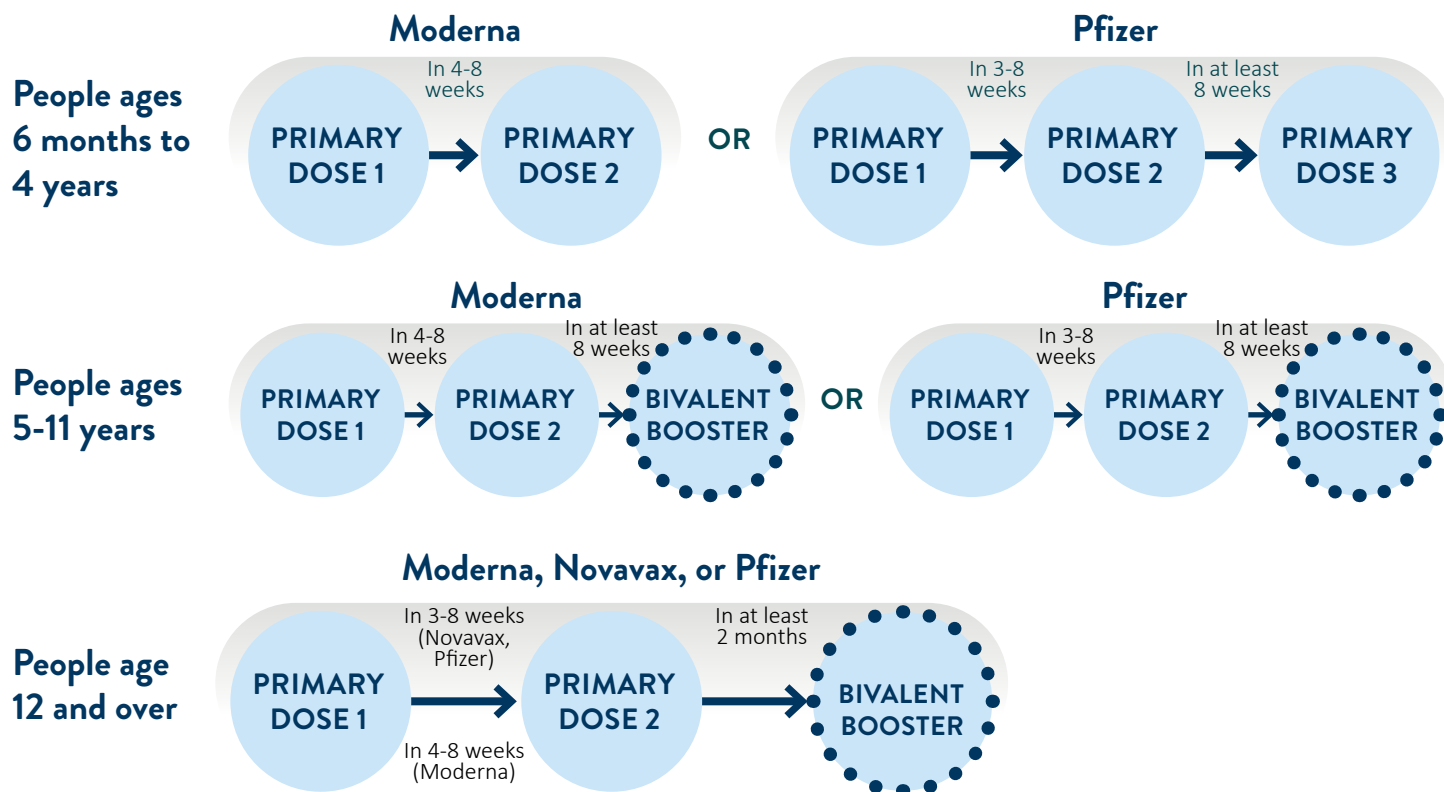
Available vaccines

There are a couple of COVID-19 vaccines available: Pfizer, Moderna, and Novavax. The CDC does not recommend one of the vaccines over the other. Each vaccine helps protect young children from getting very sick with COVID-19. Not all vaccination locations will have each vaccine available. The most important thing is not to miss an opportunity to get your child vaccinated. For more information on the vaccines visit CDC: Overview of COVID-19 Vaccines (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/overview-COVID-19-vaccines.html).

COVID-19 vaccine doses and time between doses by vaccine

- The vaccine and number of doses your child gets depends on their age.
- The vaccines for children age 6 months through 11 years are a smaller dose of vaccine than the vaccines for older children and adults. The size of the vaccine dose is based on the child's age, not their size or weight.
- Children should get the same type of vaccine for all doses of their primary vaccine series. The primary vaccine series refers to the initial number of doses of a particular vaccine that a person needs. It does not include booster shots.
- It is important to get all recommended doses of the vaccine for the best protection. Children age 5 and older should get an updated (bivalent) booster dose.

People ages 6 months to 4 years

Moderna

PRIMARY DOSE 1 → (In 4-8 weeks) PRIMARY DOSE 2

OR

Pfizer

PRIMARY DOSE 1 → (In 3-8 weeks) PRIMARY DOSE 2 → (In at least 8 weeks) PRIMARY DOSE 3

People ages 5-11 years

Moderna

PRIMARY DOSE 1 → (In 4-8 weeks) PRIMARY DOSE 2 → (In at least 8 weeks) BIVALENT BOOSTER

OR

Pfizer

PRIMARY DOSE 1 → (In 3-8 weeks) PRIMARY DOSE 2 → (In at least 8 weeks) BIVALENT BOOSTER

People age 12 and over

Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer

PRIMARY DOSE 1 → (In 3-8 weeks (Novavax, Pfizer) / In 4-8 weeks (Moderna)) PRIMARY DOSE 2 → (In at least 2 months) BIVALENT BOOSTER

Your child's health care provider can provide more information and help you schedule all recommended doses while getting the first dose.

Children who have a weak immune system (immunocompromised) will have different recommendations. Parents and guardians should talk with their child's health care provider.

For more information, review CDC: Stay Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines Including Boosters (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html).

MINNESOTA

mn.gov/vaccine