



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
Central Shenandoah Health District
Local Health Departments

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IN COOPERATION WITH THE STATE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CSHD COVID-19 Vaccine School Clinic FAQ

The CDC recommends that children and adolescents age 5 and older get a COVID-19 vaccine.

Where can my 5-11-year-old get the COVID-19 vaccine?

Central Shenandoah Health District is partnering with all public school systems in the district to provide free COVID-19 vaccines to eligible children in our elementary and some select middle schools over the course of November and December. Talk to your child's school administration regarding specific dates for in-school COVID-19 vaccine clinics.

Your child can also be vaccinated at the following locations:

- Retail pharmacies (CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, etc.)
- Local Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Pediatrician and/or family practice offices
- Local health department offices
- Community vaccination clinics

Please visit vaccinate.virginia.gov or call (877) VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682) to find more information about these other vaccination locations and to schedule an appointment

Which COVID-19 vaccine will be offered at my child's school?

Currently, the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is authorized for children and adolescents age 5 and up, as a 2-dose series taken 3 weeks apart.

Who can get vaccinated at my child's school vaccine clinic?

In-school vaccine clinics will only be available for students aged 5-11. To schedule a COVID-19 vaccine for an individual aged 12 years or older, please visit vaccinate.virginia.gov.

Can my 5-11-year-old get the COVID-19 vaccine somewhere other than their school?

Yes, you can visit vaccinate.virginia.gov to schedule your child for a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at a vaccination location other than their school.

Can my child go to a different school clinic to get vaccinated?

If you want your child to get vaccinated at an in-school clinic, they must get vaccinated at the school they attend. For other vaccine clinic opportunities, please visit vaccinate.virginia.gov.

How do I schedule an appointment for my 5-11-year-old to get the COVID-19 vaccine at their school?

If you are interested in your child receiving the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at their school, registration will be required. You will have the option to register them online or register them using a paper form. The school will provide you with a private link for the clinic at your child's school to schedule online. The school will also provide you with a paper registration form. You do not need to complete both forms of registration.

I need help completing the registration form for my child to get vaccinated, what should I do?

If you need help completing the online or paper registration form for your child to get vaccinated at their school, you can call a CSHD Community Health Worker for help.

For help in English, please call 804-357-0376.

For help in Spanish, please call 540-574-5261.

For help in Arabic, please call 804-652-9568.

I registered my child for their in-school clinic at least 48 hours (or more) before the clinic, what do I need to know?

If you choose to schedule your child online at least 48 hours prior to a clinic, the online registration will not include medical screening questions. Please be aware that you may be sent separate medical screening questions pertaining to your child. These medical screening questions will need to be completed for your child to get vaccinated at their school.

You can also register your child using the paper registration form. The paper registration form will include the required medical screening questions. In some situations, clinic appointments may be limited. To guarantee your child's appointment, it is recommended that you complete the online registration

What should I do if the clinic at my child's school has no more appointment slots?

Unfortunately, we are limited due to space and staffing capacity to be able to vaccinate every child at their school's clinic. In some situations, clinic appointments may be limited. To guarantee your child's appointment, it is recommended that you complete the online registration. There are other opportunities to get vaccinated in the community. For other vaccine clinic opportunities, please visit vaccinate.virginia.gov.

I registered my child for their school clinic in under 48 hours before the clinic, what do I need to know?

You will be able to register your child for their school's clinic up until the start of the clinic. If you register online in under 48 hours before the school clinic, medical screening questions will be included in the online registration process.

You can also register your child using the paper registration form. The paper registration form will include the required medical screening questions.

I am concerned my child will be afraid to get vaccinated at their school. If I register them up for an in-school vaccine, will they be forced to follow through with the shot?

If you registered your child for a COVID-19 vaccine at their school's clinic and your child exhibits signs of distress about receiving the vaccine while they are at the clinic, then we will not follow through with the vaccination. We understand that shots can be scary for children and, sometimes, large scale clinic settings are not the best setting for every child to get their vaccinations. The COVID-19 vaccine is not mandatory for children, even if you registered them to receive an in-school vaccine.

If I do not register my child for a COVID-19 vaccine at their school clinic, will they be vaccinated at their school?

No, if you do not register your child for a COVID-19 vaccine at their school clinic, then they will not receive the vaccination at the in-school clinic. We need parental consent to provide any immunizations to a child under the age of 18.

Do I need to fill out the paper registration form and the online registration form?

No, you can complete either the paper registration form or the online registration form. You do not need to complete both in order for your child to get vaccinated at the school clinic. In some situations, clinic appointments may be limited. To guarantee your child's appointment, it is recommended that you complete the online registration.

Do I need to be present at the school clinic in order for my child to receive their vaccination?

If you register your child for their schools' COVID-19 vaccine clinic, then you do not need to be present the day of the clinic. Some schools will allow parents onsite to provide support to their children during the clinic. Please check with your child's school to see if parents are welcome at the clinic.

Will my child be able to receive their second dose of the Pfizer vaccine at their schools?

Yes, the second dose in-school clinics have been scheduled with your child's school. Your child can either receive their second dose at the school clinics or they can receive their second dose at another clinic location. Your child should get their second dose 3 weeks after receiving their first dose. Visit vaccinate.virginia.gov to see vaccine locations other than your child's school.

Will I be allowed to come to my child's COVID-19 vaccine appointment at their school?

Some schools will be able to allow parents to come to their child's COVID-19 vaccine appointment, while other schools will not be able to allow this. Please check with your child's school administration for their specific policies.

Is the COVID-19 vaccine for 5-11 year olds different from the vaccine for ages 12 and up?

The dose for children ages 5-11 is one-third of the dosage of the vaccine for older adolescents and adults.

Why should my child (age 5 years or older) get the COVID-19 vaccine?

Getting your child vaccinated can help protect them against COVID-19, as well as reduce disruptions to in-person learning and group activities by helping curb community transmission.

How do I know the COVID-19 vaccine is safe for my child?

About 3,100 children were vaccinated during the clinical trials and no serious side effects have been detected. Side effects such as arm soreness and fatigue are similar to those experienced by people aged 12 years and older. The benefits of vaccination outweigh any known risks. Please consult your child's healthcare provider with any questions or concerns specific to your child's health.

I have more questions, what can I do?

To learn more about COVID-19 vaccines for children and teens, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/children-teens.html>.

If you have questions or concerns specific to your child's health, please consult with a healthcare provider.

For any additional questions, please email the Central Shenandoah Health District at cshdinfo@vdh.virginia.gov.