



Why is a COVID booster shot recommended?

Booster shots refresh your ability to prevent and fight COVID-19, which declines over time.

COVID-19 booster vaccines have been determined to be safe and effective by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Studies have shown that the vaccine has reduced efficacy 6 to 8 months after vaccination and a booster provides additional protection against the virus. This is especially important as new variants emerge to help protect against serious illness that can lead to hospitalization or cause death.

What booster is Jackson providing?

Jackson is exclusively providing Pfizer boosters.

I want to get my COVID vaccine booster and the flu shot. Is there a recommended time that I should wait in between the two?

You can safely get both at the same time.

Per CDC guidelines, COVID-19 vaccines can be administered without regard to the timing of other vaccines. This also applies to the flu vaccine. It is safe to get both the COVID booster and flu shot at the same time. Each injection should be given at a different location on the body.

Who is eligible to receive the booster?

People who had their second dose of the Pfizer vaccine at least six months ago and are at higher risk of being infected with COVID, including healthcare workers.

Pfizer COVID-19 booster vaccines are available to the following groups who received their second Pfizer vaccine dose at least six months prior:

- Those who are 65 years old or older
- Those who are 18 to 64 years old and at high risk of contracting severe COVID-19 due to underlying health conditions
- Those who are 18 to 64 years old whose frequent occupational or institutional exposure to COVID-19 puts them at high risk of contracting the virus, such as healthcare workers

Is the booster a different dose from the first two doses of the Pfizer vaccine I received?

No, the Pfizer booster vaccine is the same dosage as the first two vaccines.

What are the possible side effects following the Pfizer booster?

Similar to those experienced after the first two doses.

While usually mild, side effects of the Pfizer vaccine can include soreness at the injection site, fever, chills, body aches, headaches, and other flu-like symptoms.

If I feel sick from side effects after receiving my booster, what should I do?

Most side effects go away on their own in a day or two.

In most cases, side effects are mild and clear up within 48 hours after vaccination. If possible, we recommend you receive your booster a day before you have a day off from work just in case you experience side effects. Please continue to complete the Daily CARE Check-In whenever you are working in a Jackson facility, and be sure to report your symptoms to our COVID-19 vaccine symptom checker on [JacksonCOVID19.org](https://jacksoncovid19.org).

What do I need to bring with me the day I get my booster?

Please bring your CDC vaccination card so details about your booster dosage can be added.

I got vaccinated at Jackson, but I lost my CDC vaccination card. Where can I go to get verification that I have been vaccinated?

Vaccination records from Jackson are in your MyJacksonHealth patient portal.

If you were vaccinated at a Jackson site, your information is in our electronic health record. We are not providing replacement cards; however, you can also log into the Jackson Patient Portal for proof of your vaccination.

Are boosters only being provided at Jackson to employees who were vaccinated at a Jackson site?

Boosters will be offered to any employee, credentialed physician, or contractor who meets the eligible criteria.

The Pfizer booster vaccines will be offered to any employee, credentialed physician, or contractor who meets the eligible criteria, regardless of where they received their first two Pfizer COVID vaccines. To check your booster eligibility, visit <https://jhsmiami.org/Covid19VaccineBooster/login.cfm>

Will first and second doses of the Pfizer vaccine still be available while the boosters are being offered?

Yes, first and second doses of the Pfizer vaccine will be available to employees and providers who have not received them yet.

Can people who received Johnson & Johnson or Moderna vaccines get a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine?

Not at this time.

There is not enough data to support getting a Pfizer booster if you previously received a vaccine manufactured by Johnson & Johnson or Moderna. People who received Johnson & Johnson or Moderna vaccines will likely need a booster dose from those manufacturers after they're approved by the FDA and CDC.

Will Jackson provide boosters to University of Miami physicians, agency nurses, students, contractors, and community doctors who are credentialed at Jackson?

Yes, as long as they provide proof of their previous Pfizer vaccinations and are within the eligible timeframe.

Will the COVID-19 booster vaccine be required by Jackson like the first two doses?

Not at this time.

The booster vaccine is currently not required in order for employees and providers to be considered fully vaccinated. We will continue to monitor the CDC guidance, and will adjust our policies if anything changes.