

# COVID-19 Vaccine Offered to Your Child at School

Your school has partnered with Nationwide Children's Hospital to offer the COVID-19 vaccine (shot) to your child at school. The COVID-19 vaccine being given at school is only for students age 16 and older. We cannot give it to parents/guardians. The attached consent form must be filled out for your child to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

---

## **How old does my child need to be to get the COVID-19 vaccine?**

The COVID-19 vaccine is only for people age 16 and older. It is not yet approved for children under age 16.

## **How can my child receive the COVID-19 vaccine at school?**

You have two options:

1. Complete the attached consent form. Return it to your teacher. This will allow your child to receive the COVID-19 vaccine at school.
2. Sign up for your child to receive the COVID-19 vaccine at any other COVID-19 vaccine location with openings. Visit the Ohio Department of Health's website ([www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov)) for more information and locations.

## **Can I be with my child when they receive the vaccine?**

Parents do not need to be on-site with their child. However, they are welcome to attend.

## **Which COVID-19 vaccine will they receive?**

Your child will receive the Pfizer vaccine, which is approved for children ages 16 and older. The Pfizer vaccine is 97% effective against COVID-19.

## **How is the Pfizer vaccine given?**

It is given in two doses, three weeks apart. A follow-up clinic will be held at the school three weeks after the first clinic so your child can receive their second dose.

## **How much does the COVID-19 vaccine cost?**

There is no cost for the COVID-19 vaccine. No insurance information is collected.

## **Does getting the COVID-19 vaccine impact getting other routine vaccines?**

Currently the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends two weeks in between getting the COVID-19 vaccine and any other routine vaccine. If your child has routine vaccines soon, do not schedule it within two weeks of getting either the first or second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

## **Is the COVID-19 vaccine safe for teens?**

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective for teens and adults. The COVID-19 vaccine has been issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). An EUA is granted when a drug is needed for emergency use. Nationwide Children's is giving the COVID-19 vaccine in large numbers to its own staff and patients.

[continued]



*When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.*

**What side effects could my child have?**

Reported side effects are like other vaccines and may include:

- Pain, swelling and redness in the arm where you get the shot.
- Tiredness, headache, muscle pain, joint pain, chills, fever, and nausea and vomiting.
- There is a small chance that the vaccine could cause a severe allergic reaction. Severe allergic reactions are rare but can happen.

We will watch your child for 15 minutes after they get the shot. We are watching for any allergic reaction.

**How was the COVID-19 vaccine developed so fast?**

The unprecedented scientific cooperation, building on a decade of research, allowed the COVID-19 vaccine to be safe for the public fast. Despite this shorter-than-normal development timeframe, all testing processes and standards were the same. There were no shortcuts in the approval process.

**Could the COVID-19 vaccine cause infertility in my child?**

There is no evidence or data that shows the COVID-19 vaccine causes infertility for women or men.

**Why should teens get a COVID-19 vaccine when they don't get as sick with COVID-19?**

Data shows that teens are typically less impacted than adults with COVID-19. However, some teens still get really sick from COVID-19 and have long-term effects. Teens can also transmit the virus to others and get them sick.

**Once my child gets the vaccine, do they need to follow safety guidelines?**

Yes. It is not yet known how long the vaccine will protect you from COVID-19 or if you can still spread the virus after getting the vaccine. Even after you are vaccinated, it will take months for herd immunity (protection from a disease through vaccination and/or previous infection) to be built in the community. Keep washing your hands, wearing a mask and following social distancing guidelines (staying six feet apart) for your safety and for those around you.

**Where can I get more information about the Pfizer vaccine?**

Visit [https://www.pfizer.com/news/hot-topics/the\\_facts\\_about\\_pfizer\\_and\\_biontech\\_s\\_covid\\_19\\_vaccine](https://www.pfizer.com/news/hot-topics/the_facts_about_pfizer_and_biontech_s_covid_19_vaccine) or call 1-800-879-3477.

**If you have more questions, contact your school nurse or call (614) 355-2590.**



*When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.*