Janet T. Mills Governor

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# **COVID-19 Booster Shots**

December 6, 2021

COVID-19 booster shots are now available for Mainers over age 18 who have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

A booster dose or shot is another dose of a COVID-19 vaccine that is given at least six months after the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or at least two months after getting the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

## Why should I get a booster shot?

The protection against COVID-19 that you get through a vaccine decreases over time. This means that over time, you have less immunity to the virus than when you were first vaccinated. To help you stay protected against COVID-19, the Maine CDC recommends that everyone age 18 and older get a booster dose.<sup>1</sup>

## Am I eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine booster shot?

All adults aged 18 and older are eligible to receive a COVID-19 booster shot if:

- You completed the two-dose Pfizer or Moderna vaccine series at least six months ago, OR
- You received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two months ago.<sup>2</sup>

## Can I get a different booster type than the vaccine I originally received?

Yes, you can mix and match vaccine types for the booster. You may choose which booster dose you get. Some people may prefer the vaccine type that they originally received, and others may prefer to get a different booster.

## Do I have to pay anything for my COVID-19 booster shot?

No, you will not have to pay for your COVID-19 booster shot. Either MaineCare or the federal government pays for the booster shot at no cost to you.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Maine COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ https://www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines/public-faq#boosters

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> COVID-19 Vaccination in Maine https://www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines

#### Where can I get a COVID-19 booster shot?

To find a booster dose:

- Look for a vaccination site at <u>COVID-19 Vaccination in Maine</u>
- Call the Community Vaccination Line at 1-888-445-4111. They are available Monday -Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For interpreter services, call the number and say your language. People who are deaf and hard of hearing may dial 711 and ask to be connected to the number above.

#### Can I get a COVID-19 booster and a flu shot at the same time?

Yes, it is safe to get a booster dose and your flu shot at the same time. For your own comfort, you may want to choose different arms in case you feel some soreness where you get the shots.

For more information about the COVID-19 vaccine, boosters, and more, please review <u>these</u> <u>FAQs</u>.