



COVID-19 VACCINE



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COVID-19 VACCINE IN BAY COUNTY

There are tens of thousands of people trying to register at this time for a limited number of vaccines. Your patience and understanding are essential and appreciated.

WHO CAN RECEIVE THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

Governor Ron DeSantis has signed [Executive Order 20-315](#) which outlines that providers can only administer COVID-19 vaccine to the following groups:

- Long-term care facility residents and staff.
 - Persons 65 years of age and older.
- Health care personnel with direct patient contact.
- Persons deemed to be extremely vulnerable to COVID-19 by hospital providers.

COVID-19 VACCINE SCREENING QUESTIONS

1. Do you have today or have you had at any time in the last 10 days a fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea?
2. Have you tested positive for and/or been diagnosed with COVID-19 infection within the last 10 days?
3. Have you had a severe allergic reaction (e.g. needed epinephrine or hospital care) to a previous dose of this vaccine or to any of the ingredients in this vaccine?
4. Have you had any other vaccinations in the last 14 days (e.g. influenza vaccine, etc.)?
5. Have you have any COVID-19 Antibody therapy within the last 90 days (e.g. Regeneron, Bamlanivimab, COVID Convalescent Plasma, etc.)

If you answered 'yes' to any of the above screening questions, please consult with your healthcare provider before making an appointment.

MODERNA COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

The Moderna vaccine received an Emergency Use Authorization from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in December. The FDA says it is highly effective at preventing COVID-19 and reducing the more serious effects of the virus. The Moderna vaccine is an mRNA vaccine that can most easily be described as instructions for the cell on how to make a piece of the "spike protein" that is unique to SARS-CoV-2. Once displayed on the cell surface, the spike protein causes the immune system to begin producing antibodies which means the immune system is primed to protect against future infection.

All persons indicated for vaccination should receive 2 doses at least 1 month (28 days) apart. mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are not interchangeable with each other or with other COVID-19 vaccine products.



COVID-19 TESTING



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BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT

Consent forms for the Moderna vaccine are available at Bay.FloridaHealth.gov. Those making an appointment are encouraged to review the consent information and consult with their healthcare provider before receiving the vaccine. If possible, please print and complete the consent form and bring it to the vaccination appointment. Anyone who has allergic reactions that require an epi pen should bring it to the appointment.

SECOND DOSE APPOINTMENTS

DOH-Bay second doses will be scheduled by phone close to the due date of your dose. If you are not contacted by the due date on your card provided at your appointment, please call (850) 872-4455. Starting this week, persons who receive their first dose will be provided with an appointment for the second dose at the time the first dose is administered.

COVID-19 VACCINE APPOINTMENTS

The Florida Department of Health has created a vaccine locator site at <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/vaccines/vaccine-locator/>. The vaccine is available to all persons who meet the authorization criteria. You can receive the vaccine in any county; you are not limited to your home county.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN BAY COUNTY

DOH-Bay will continue to announce appointment availability through text and email alerts. Sign-up for alerts by texting 'bayhealth' to 888777 or visiting <https://bit.ly/bayhealthalert>.

Seniors who do not have internet access, have difficulty using the internet or who have no one to assist them with online registration may call the Florida Department of Health Bay County (DOH-Bay) at (850) 872-4455. DOH-Bay's hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

PUBLIX

Publix is now offering COVID-19 vaccination at all five Bay County locations. To make an appointment, visit <https://www.publix.com/covid-vaccine>. Publix is not accepting appointments by phone or in-person.