

# COVID-19 Vaccination: What to Expect



## Who can get vaccinated and boosted now?

- Everyone 5 years of age and older is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Everyone 12 years of age and older is eligible for a booster.

## How to make a vaccine appointment

For help finding a nearby appointment, you can:

- Check <https://myturn.ca.gov> or call (833) 422-4255
- Go to [VaccineFinder.org](https://VaccineFinder.org)
- Check with your healthcare provider or local pharmacy.

The vaccine is **FREE**, available regardless of immigration status, and you do not need insurance.

Be prepared to provide your:

- **Name**
- **Phone number or email**
- **Birthdate**
- **Address**

## Preparing for your appointment

### 1 Do NOT attend the vaccine clinic if you:

- Are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, sudden loss of taste or smell, chills, muscle pain)
- Are waiting for COVID-19 test results
- Are currently in quarantine or isolation
- Have received a vaccine of any kind (such as flu or shingles) in the past 14 days
- Will be receiving another vaccine in the next 14 days

For more information, visit  
[www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirusvaccine](http://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirusvaccine)

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## Preparing for your appointment

- 2 Fill out the required paperwork ahead of time.** This will help your visit go more quickly.
- 3 Arrive no more than 10 minutes before your appointment.**
- 4 Wear a face covering and practice social distancing at all times.**
- 5 Wear clothing that allows easy access to the upper arm.**
- 6 Plan to be at the vaccination site for 30 to 60 minutes after you check in.** This includes a mandatory 15 to 30 minutes observation period after you have been vaccinated.

## What To expect at your appointment

When you arrive, you will be checked in for your appointment. Then you will move from station to station through the vaccine process.

- ✓ Someone will provide and check your paperwork and consent forms.
- ✓ A healthcare worker will ask you some questions to ensure that it is safe for you to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
- ✓ A medical professional will give you the vaccine.
- ✓ Before you leave, confirm your second dose appointment.
- ✓ After the vaccine, expect to wait at least 15 to 30 minutes in the observation area.

## After your appointment

You will be given information about possible side effects from the vaccine. **These include headache, fever, chills, body aches, and arm soreness.** Be sure to read this carefully and monitor your health for any concerns.

**Even after vaccination, it is still important to wear a face covering, wash hands often, and stay six feet away from those outside your household.**

You can sign up for V-safe (<https://vsafe.cdc.gov/-safe>), an online system to report any side effects.

This system is confidential and your personal information will not be shared. You can also sign up for 2nd dose reminders.

