

## MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LINK TO MEDIA RELEASE

Press release in Spanish:

### **COVID-19 Booster Shot Eligibility Expanded to Anyone Age 18 or Older**

HILLSBOROUGH, N.C. Nov. 22, 2021 — The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has recommended [booster vaccine shots](#) for all adults 18 and older to help strengthen and extend protections against COVID-19.

If you received the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, you can get your booster six months after your second shot. If you received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, you can get your booster two months after your shot.

**Anyone over 50 or at high risk, as well as those 18 or older who were vaccinated more than two months ago with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, should get a booster dose now.** Additionally, fully vaccinated people who received their first COVID-19 vaccine outside of the U.S. or in clinical trials with a brand not currently authorized can now receive a Pfizer booster shot when they are eligible.

NCDHHS encourages you to speak with a doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you have questions about which booster is right for you.

To find a COVID-19 booster visit [MySpot.nc.gov](https://www.nc.gov/MySpot) to search vaccine locations near you. Not all vaccines may be available at every vaccine location.

Individuals can receive any brand of COVID-19 vaccine for their booster shot. Some people may have a preference for the vaccine type that they originally received and others may prefer to get a different booster. Limited preliminary evidence suggests that booster doses of one of the two mRNA vaccines—Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech—more effectively raise antibody levels than a booster dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Booster shots are available anywhere COVID-19 vaccines are available. Individuals who want to receive a booster shot will need to know the dates of any past COVID-19 vaccinations, as well as the vaccine brand they originally received. Paper vaccination cards are helpful but may not be necessary. [At-home vaccination](#) and [free transportation](#) may be available.

## Related Links

- For more information about COVID-19 vaccines in North Carolina or to find a vaccine location visit [MySpot.nc.gov](https://www.myspot.nc.gov).
- North Carolina's actions are based on recommendations from the CDC. Read the CDC's full statement [here](#).
- More information about COVID-19 vaccine boosters and additional doses is available on [NCDHHS's website](#).
- Orange County Health Department's COVID-19 vaccine page: [www.orangecountync.gov/getyourshot](https://www.orangecountync.gov/getyourshot)

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