Wyoming Department of Health

COVID-19 VACCINE FAQS

COST



I do not have insurance. Can I still get the vaccine for free?
Yes. If you do not have insurance, you are still able to get the vaccine for free.

If I have insurance, will I be expected to pay for my vaccine in any way?
No. Your insurance can be billed for an administration fee, but you will not be billed for any fees.

SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS



Is the vaccine safe?
COVID-19 vaccines, like other vaccines, are being held to high standards to make sure they are safe. If you have had an immediate allergic reaction to other vaccines, ask your doctor if you should get a COVID-19 vaccine. More information about vaccine safety is available here.

What are the side effects of the vaccine?
Side effects are a normal sign that the body is developing immunity against COVID-19. Common side effects include pain on the arm where you got the shot, fever, chills, tiredness, and headache. These symptoms can be treated with an over the counter pain reliever and should go away within a day or two.

VACCINE PRIORITY GROUPS AND TIMELINE



What is the current vaccine phase in Wyoming?

Wyoming is currently in Phase 1. Phase 1 includes three categories:

- Phase 1a: This includes critical populations who have regular exposure to COVID-19 patients; have regular exposure to people who are potentially positive, or are exposed to infectious materials; and residents and staff of long-term care, assisted living, and residential care facilities.
- Phase 1b: This includes critical populations who are 65 and older; some frontline essential workers who must interact with the public and are unable to consistently physically distance themselves from others; people with specific diagnosed chronic conditions; people on the Wyoming Medicaid Community Choices Waiver and Developmental Disabilities waivers; and caregivers to those who are medically vulnerable and unable to be vaccinated.
- Phase 1c: This includes critical populations who are at increased risk of acquiring or transmitting COVID-19, such as those who live in congregate settings; and other essential workers not already covered in Phase 1b.

Learn more about phases/priority groups here.

What chronic conditions are included in 1b?

Cancer, chronic kidney disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, solid organ transplant, sickle cell disease, down syndrome, pregnancy, diabetes, heart conditions, obesity (BMI over 30), immunocompromised state from solid organ transplant; blood or bone marrow transplant; immune deficiencies; long term high dose corticosteroids; or other immune weakening medicines; and severe neurologic conditions (including motor neuron disease, myasthenia gravis, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, cerebral palsy, quadriplegia or hemiplegia, progressive cerebellar disease, epilepsy, stroke and dementia).

Who is considered a frontline essential worker in 1b?
Eligible frontline essential workers include police, firefighters, correctional staff, funeral service practitioners, congregate care employees, healthcare providers, healthcare facility surveyors, teachers, child service providers, public transit employees, food supply chain workers, veterinarians, court system employees, and custodial staff responsible for cleaning areas contaminated with COVID-19. The following workers are also eligible if they interact with the public for more than 15 minutes and are unable to physically distance: social workers, US postal service and delivery workers, security officers, and workforce center employees.

How will I know when I can get a vaccine?
Since the vaccine is administered locally, each county provides information to residents on which phases/priority groups they are currently vaccinating, how to schedule an appointment or attend a vaccine clinic, and what additional information will be needed.

Will all counties proceed through the priority groups at the same time?
No. priority timelines will vary from county to county. You can find county specific information here.

PREPARING FOR YOUR VACCINE



What should I do to prepare for my appointment?
If your priority group is currently being scheduled, you can prepare to receive your vaccine by pre-registering online. Go to the county information page to find the link to pre-register for your county. You can learn about how the vaccine works here.

What documents will I need to bring with me to my vaccine appointment?
Eligibility documentation will vary by county. You will need to bring a vaccine consent form that can be found on your county information page.

What should I expect from my vaccine appointment?
When you arrive at your appointment, you will need to fill out a questionnaire, similar to getting a flu shot. You will receive a fact sheet that tells you more about the specific vaccine you are being offered. After receiving the vaccine, you will be given a vaccination card that notes the type of vaccine you received and the date.

OTHER QUESTIONS



What if I need to cancel or reschedule my appointment?
Contact the facility where you have an appointment to cancel or reschedule. It's important to notify the facility so they can minimize any potential vaccine waste.

If I had COVID-19, should I get the vaccine?
Yes. Vaccination is recommended regardless of history of prior symptomatic or asymptomatic infection.

Can I get the vaccine if I previously received antibody therapy?
If you had antibody therapy specific to COVDID-19, vaccination should be deferred for 90 days since your last treatment. If your antibody therapy was not specific to COVID-19, you do not need to defer your vaccination.

If I have received both doses of the vaccine, do I need to quarantine following an exposure?

You do not need to quarantine following an exposure if all three of the following criteria are met. If they are not met, you should follow current quarantine guidance (see What to Do if You are Exposed to COVID-19).

1. You are fully vaccinated (it has been 2 weeks or more since the second dose in a 2-dose series)
2. You are within 3 months following receipt of the last dose in the series
3. You have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure

Once I'm vaccinated, can I stop wearing a mask?

No. Other safety measures, such as masking, distancing, and good hand washing should still be used, regardless of whether or not you have been vaccinated.