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Missouri COVID-19 Vaccinator Newsletter

July 30, 2021

MOSTopsCovid.com

MOSTopsCovid.com/vaccinators

FDA Again Extends Shelf Life of Johnson & Johnson Vaccine

The Food & Drug Administration [authorized an extension](#) of the shelf life for the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine from 4.5 months to 6 months. The decision is based on data from ongoing stability assessment studies, which have demonstrated that the vaccine is stable at 6 months when refrigerated at temperatures of 36 – 46 degrees Fahrenheit (2 – 8 degrees Celsius).

Vaccine providers should visit <https://vaxcheck.jnj/> to confirm the latest expiration dates of vaccine. This extension applies to refrigerated vials of J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine that have been held in accordance with the manufacturer's storage conditions.

COVID-19 vaccines that are authorized under an EUA do not have fixed expiration dates, and their expiration dates can be extended as we get more stability data. Always be sure to check the manufacturer's website to obtain the most up-to-date expiration dates for COVID-19 vaccines you have on hand. Updated fact sheets are available on the [Vaccinators Resource page \(Janssen\)](#).

Have Your Local Vaccination Events Posted for Public on MOSTopsCovid.com

Want to further promote your COVID-19 vaccine clinic? MOSTopsCovid.com continues to be the go-to place the State and many partners are pointing individuals to when they decide to become vaccinated. We now have a simple form you can fill out to have your standing clinic, one-time clinic or multi-day clinic listed on MOSTopsCovid.com by region.



**Local Vaccination
Events**

To have your clinic included, [complete this form](#).

To make *changes* to the clinic you have already submitted, [complete this form](#).

Help Promote MO VIP – Missouri’s Statewide Vaccine Incentive Program

Last week, Governor Mike Parson announced the launch of a statewide COVID-19 vaccination incentive program, MO VIP, to encourage vaccination among all Missourians age 12 and up. Over the next three months, 900 Missourians who have or will choose to be vaccinated will win cash or education savings account prizes in the amount of \$10,000.

The MO VIP incentivizes vaccination for those who have not yet been vaccinated as well as provides an opportunity for rewards for the 2.8 million Missourians who have already made the decision to be protected through vaccination.



Missourians who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine are now able to enter to win one of the 900 prizes. The first drawing will be on August 13; drawings will occur every two weeks with the final drawing scheduled for October 8. Once Missouri residents receive a dose, they become eligible to enter the sweepstakes at [MOPStopsCovid.com/win](https://moplastscovid.com/win). Once entered, their entry will be carried over through all the drawings. There is no need to enter more than once. The entry list will be reviewed, and duplicate entries will be removed prior to each drawing. A winner must meet all of the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be a living citizen of the United States and a permanent resident of the State of Missouri.
- Must be age 12 or older.
- Must have received at least the first COVID-19 vaccination if receiving the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or one dose if receiving the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, prior to the drawing date (records will be verified).

Those ineligible include the Governor and First Lady, individuals currently incarcerated on the basis of a felony conviction, statewide elected officials, members of the U.S. Congress and Missouri General Assembly, appointees of Governor Mike Parson, employees of the Office of Governor Mike Parson, the Office of the Treasurer Scott Fitzpatrick, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Missouri Lottery, and the Office of Administration (and members of ineligible individuals' households).

(continued on next page)

Entries will be divided into three categories:

- Red: Missourians age 18 and up receiving at least one dose of vaccine **on or after July 21**.
- White: Missourians age 18 and up receiving at least one dose of vaccine **before** July 21.
- Blue: Missourians ages 12 to 17 receiving at least one dose of vaccine at any time.

Eighty winners will be randomly selected during each drawing from the Red and White categories (10 from each congressional district). These individuals will each receive a cash prize of \$10,000. During each drawing, 20 adolescents from the Blue category will be randomly selected to receive a \$10,000 education savings account through the Missouri State Treasurer's MOST 529 program. This means every two weeks of the program, 180 Missourians will be winners for a total of 900 individuals. These preliminary winners will all have their vaccination status verified.

To allow time for records and eligibility to be verified, confirmed winners will be announced two weeks following each drawing. Entries will be accepted online until 11:59 p.m. two days prior to each drawing. Official rules, frequently asked questions, and a program timeline are available at MOStopsCovid.com/win.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is partnering with Missouri Lottery to conduct a fair and secure program with a randomized selection process. DHSS is using federally funded Coronavirus Relief Funds to fund this campaign. This funding was approved under previous and current federal administrations for broad COVID-19 response purposes to include efforts to boost vaccine uptake.

Those without the ability to enter the sweepstakes online can get assistance by calling the COVID-19 hotline Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. at 877-435-8411.

Please help us promote this incentive by posting flyers or social media messages. A [toolkit of materials is available for your download here](#).

Additionally, local public health agencies that administer COVID-19 vaccines will soon be eligible to provide a financial incentive of up to \$25 for each vaccine recipient, up to a total of \$11 million. This program would provide incentives for administrators to pass along to recipients for 440,000 vaccines administered across Missouri and would sunset on December 31, 2021. Local public health agencies are able to partner with enrolled COVID-19 vaccinators within the State of Missouri to be part of this program. This portion of incentives is being funded by CDC Immunizations grant funding. More information about this application process for health departments is forthcoming.

Hotspot Advisories

DHSS continues to post hotspot advisories for counties at risk of future high transmission: www.health.mo.gov/covid-hotspots

We are looking at a combination of factors including data on case rate increases as well as local insights on potential transmission to identify counties that are or have potential to become hotspots. We are providing these insights to community leaders to help overcome vaccine hesitancy and encourage community members to get vaccinated as the best way to control spread of the disease. Where we can inform local leaders ahead of anticipated increases, our intent is that the areas won't become hotspots.

Helpful Reminders

- At this time only 2 doses of Pfizer or Moderna and the 1 dose of J&J are authorized by FDA and ACIP. Doses knowingly administered outside of the EUA are not authorized and protection provided by the PREP ACT to those administering the vaccine may not apply (according to CDC).
- If you have not updated your vaccine inventory in Vaccine Finder please do so as soon as possible.
- Bureau of Immunization staff are starting to contact COVID-19 providers to set up site visits starting in August 2021. Please note that visits will need to be when you have inventory and are administering vaccine as the CDC would like ensure that all vaccine is being administered properly. Staff will also need access to your vaccine storage units and breaker box. If you have questions, please contact Lana Hudanick at lane.hudanick@health.mo.gov.
- Please make sure you are updating and checking vaccination expiration dates in SMV to make sure you are not administering an expired vaccine.
- Remember all vaccine administration errors need to be reported to VAERS.
- J&J vaccine is still not available to order from the manufacturer. When the vaccine becomes available, we will once again add it to the order form.
- If vaccine doses are close to expiring, make sure to try to use them or transfer them. Make sure to transfer vaccine at least 2-3 weeks before expiration date.

Need more information?

We continuously update Missouri's [vaccinator resource hub](#) with information on the authorized vaccines, guidance, past newsletters, vaccinator FAQs and training opportunities. More commonly used resources are below.

- [Weekly vaccine distribution analyses](#)
- [Vaccinator supply data](#)
- [Vaccinations data – Missouri](#)
- [Vaccinations data – CDC](#)
- [Messaging toolkit](#)

DHSS contacts by topic area:

- ShowMeVax enrollment support: [Cathy Kennon](#)
- ShowMeVax troubleshooting: vfc-smvsupport@health.mo.gov
- Reporting Dose Administration assistance: ImmunizationHL7Onboarding@health.mo.gov
- Adverse events/clinical assistance: [Lana Hudanick](#)
- Vaccine redistribution: covidvaccineredistribution@health.mo.gov
- Ordering and supply management support: covidvaccineorders@health.mo.gov
- Additional PPE and other equipment: [Jenn Stockman](#)
- Newsletters/website: [Lisa Cox](#)
- All other questions: CovidVaccine@health.mo.gov

