

Dry ice will not be provided for Pfizer vaccine

- Given the updated storage capability for Pfizer vaccine (2-8C for 30d) and based on the availability of dry ice locally for sites that need it, dry ice recharges will not be provided:
 - If you intend to use the Pfizer thermal shipping container for temporary ULT storage, you must have a plan in place for replenishing the dry ice every five days.
 - Locations utilizing the shipping container for storage must activate the data monitoring system (via email from Controlant)

Ordering Directions:

We recognize sites are thinking through inventory needs as we expand primary series administration to include additional doses for immunocompromised patients. We continue to encourage all sites to use what you have on hand there continues to be large volumes of inventory in the field, and we want use vaccine to the best of your ability.

We continue to be cautiously optimistic that the Pfizer vaccine currently held at ultra-low temp conditions, will receive an extension. You should consider these possible extensions prior to placing orders for additional Pfizer vaccine.

When ordering 3rd dose vaccine ensure you are indicating on the order form that you are placing an order for 3rd dose. When indicated additional doses will not be automatically ordered for those doses.

Third Doses for Immunocompromised

Following recent announcements from the US Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, certain immunocompromised individuals can begin receiving third doses of COVID-19 vaccine in Missouri.

A third dose of the PfizerNBioTech or Moderna vaccines may be administered to moderately to severely immunocompromised people due to a medical condition or combination of immunosuppressive medication or treatments including but not limited to the following:

- Immunocompromised due to solid organ transplant and taking immune suppressing medications
- Immunocompromised due to active treatment for solid tumor and hematologic malignancies
- Immune compromised due to Receipt of CAR-T cell or hematopoietic stem cell transplant (within 2 years of transplantation or taking immunosuppression therapy)
- Moderate to severe primary immunodeficiency (eg., DiGeorge, Wiskott-Aldrich Syndromes)
- Immunocompromised due to Advanced or untreated HIV infection

- Immunocompromised due to “Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress immune response: high dose corticosteroids (ie., ≥ 20 mg prednisone or equivalent per day), alkylating agents, antimetabolites, transplant-related immunosuppressive drugs, cancer chemotherapeutic agents classified as severely immunosuppressive, tumor-necrosis (TNF) blocker or other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory”

Individuals who do not meet the criteria for “moderately to severely immunocompromised” do not need a third dose at this time.

In line with federal guidelines, Missouri will use a [self-attestation model](#) for people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised. Individuals will not be required to provide documentation of their health status, and they can get third doses at all venues where first and second doses are available.

This guidance does not apply to those who received the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine. For people who received either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna’s COVID-19 vaccine series, a third dose of the same mRNA vaccine should be used. A person should not receive more than three mRNA vaccine doses at this time. If the mRNA vaccine product given for the first two doses is not available or is unknown, either mRNA COVID-19 vaccine product may be administered. Individuals should wait at least 28 days between their second and third doses.

Announcements from federal health officials came after the analysis of studies demonstrating that immunosuppressed people are more likely to get severely ill from COVID-19, are at higher risk for prolonged infection, are more likely to transmit the virus, and experience lower vaccine effectiveness.

Additional information regarding this guidance can be found on the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>.

Interim clinical considerations for use of COVID-19 vaccines can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html>.

Missouri’s revised standing orders can be found at <https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/statewide-orders.php>.

Booster Doses for Public

On Aug. 18, public health and medical experts from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the Administration’s plan for COVID-19 booster shots for the American people, [pending FDA approval and ACIP recommendations](#).

Talking points from federal partners:

- The COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States continue to be remarkably effective in reducing risk of severe disease, hospitalization, and death, even against the widely circulating Delta variant.
- Although we continue to see stable and highly effective protection against hospitalizations and severe outcomes for people who are fully vaccinated, we are seeing a decrease in vaccine effectiveness against infection.
- It is critical that unvaccinated and partially vaccinated people get their primary series of vaccines to further reduce the risk of COVID-19 and its more severe outcomes. Nearly all the cases of severe disease, hospitalization, and death continue to occur among those not yet vaccinated at all.
- We have developed a plan to begin offering these booster shots this fall subject to FDA conducting an independent evaluation and determination of the safety and effectiveness of a third dose of the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines and CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) issuing booster dose recommendations based on a thorough review of the evidence.
 - Only after a thorough review of the evidence will CDC's independent advisory committee make recommendations on the use of boosters for the public.
 - The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), composed of medical and public health experts, develops recommendations, and provides guidance to the CDC Director on the use of vaccines for the general public.
- Among fully vaccinated people in New York state (data includes NYC) from May 3–July 25, 2021, COVID-19 vaccines were more than 90% effective against hospitalizations.
 - A new study finds that among all adults in New York State, overall effectiveness against new COVID-19 infections declined from about 92% to about 80%.
 - The decline in effectiveness against new infections coincides with the increase in the Delta variant in the United States, along with relaxation of masking and physical distancing recommendations.
 - The factors driving the apparent changes in vaccine effectiveness, including variations by age, are uncertain. The substantially increased infectiousness of the Delta variant might underpin its increased transmissibility and could potentially lead to reduced vaccine-induced protection against infection.
- A new CDC study finds the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines were highly effective in providing at least 24 weeks of protection for fully vaccinated adults against severe COVID-19 illness requiring hospitalization.
 - Vaccine effectiveness against COVID-19 associated hospitalization was 86% during the first 2–12 weeks post-vaccination and 84% effective during the following 12-week period.
 - The vaccine was found to be 90% effective against COVID-19 associated hospitalizations for people without immunocompromising conditions.

- For those with immunocompromising conditions, the vaccine was found to be only 63% effective against hospitalizations associated with COVID-19 (over the 24-week study). CDC now recommends that people whose immune systems are moderately to severely compromised should receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 weeks after their second dose, for a total of three doses.
- Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to reduce the risk of hospitalization due to COVID-19.
- Nursing home residents were prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination early in the U.S. vaccination program and might be among the first groups to show evidence of potential waning of the immunity provided by vaccines.
 - Among nursing home residents, in the pre-Delta period two doses of mRNA vaccine were 75% effective against COVID-19 infections; but during the Delta period, mRNA vaccine effectiveness declined to 53%.
 - Investigators could not determine if the lowered vaccine effectiveness was caused by potential waning immunity, reduced protection against the Delta variant (that became the dominant strain within 6 months after vaccine rollout), or a combination of both factors.
 - Vaccination of nursing home residents, staff members, and visitors should be prioritized because residents remain at higher risk for COVID-19 despite vaccination.
 - A potential need for an additional vaccine dose exists among populations at higher risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes.
- Our top priority remains staying ahead of the virus and protecting the American people from COVID-19 with safe, effective, and long-lasting vaccines.
 - This virus is constantly changing, and we are following the science. Vaccines remain the most powerful tool we have against COVID-19.
 - If you haven't been vaccinated yet, you should get vaccinated right away. Nearly all the cases of severe disease, hospitalization, and death continue to occur among those not yet vaccinated.

New MMWRs on Vaccine Effectiveness

Sustained Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines Against COVID-19-Associated Hospitalizations Among Adults — United States, March–July 2021

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7034e2.htm?s_cid=mm7034e2_w

New COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Among Adults, by Vaccination Status — New York, May 3–July 25, 2021

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7034e1.htm?s_cid=mm7034e1_w

Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines in Preventing SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Nursing Home Residents Before and After Widespread Circulation of

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7034e3.htm?s_cid=mm7034e3_w

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.



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

First group of 180 winners to be announced next week!

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

Last month, 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 occurred 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 [MOStopsCovid.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 employees' and officials' households).

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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](https://moplastopsCovid.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.

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.

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

