



## Important Information

### Important Updates Regarding Facts about COVID-19 Vaccination Communication, Becoming a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider, the COVID-19 Vaccine Locator, and a Hospital Flexibilities Reminder

Reminder 7/29/2021

#### COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkit

As a trusted source of information on vaccines, health care providers play a critical role in helping their patients understand the importance of vaccination. This is especially important for patients who are more vulnerable to the impacts of COVID-19, including those age 65 and older. As you see patients in your practices who have questions about COVID-19 vaccines, please consider utilizing some of these helpful resources to provide them with facts and information about vaccination.

All individuals age 12 and older are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine in Florida. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for individuals age 12 or older. All Florida residents age 18 or older are eligible to receive any COVID-19 vaccine as prescribed by the FDA.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has created [COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkits](#) to help promote vaccine confidence. These toolkits are designed to help health care providers and community partners share clear and accurate information about COVID-19 vaccines and address common questions and concerns.

Several printable fact sheets are included in this toolkit:

[How mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Work.](#)

[How Viral Vector COVID-19 Vaccines Work.](#)

[Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines.](#)

[What to Expect after Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine.](#)

Other helpful resources include:

- Health care provider notifications: [www.flhealthsource.gov/covid19](http://www.flhealthsource.gov/covid19).
- Florida Department of Health Immunization Section COVID-19 vaccine webpage: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/immunization/COVID-19VaccineInfo/index.html>.
- Florida Department of Health COVID-19 webpage: [www.floridahealthcovid19.gov](http://www.floridahealthcovid19.gov).
- Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html>.



# Florida Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program

## **How Can I Become a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider?**

To become a COVID-19 vaccine provider, your practice or organization must be enrolled in the Florida State Health Online Tracking System (Florida SHOTS) and the Vaccines for Children/Adults Program (VFC/VFA). For questions or additional information, please contact the COVID-19 Vaccine Enrollment Desk at 833-701-1397, or email [CovidVaccineProgram@flhealth.gov](mailto:CovidVaccineProgram@flhealth.gov). Click [here](#) to view the flyer with enrollment instructions.

Also, click [here](#) for instructions on how to order COVID-19 vaccines in Florida SHOTS.

Florida SHOTS has a number of trainings available to help providers. These trainings can be accessed by visiting <http://flshotsusers.com>.

## **COVID-19 Vaccine Locator**

If your practice is not administering vaccines, Florida has many sites that are providing COVID-19 vaccines. The Florida Department of Health has developed a vaccine locator to assist individuals in finding a vaccine anywhere throughout the state. Consider encouraging patients to visit the [vaccine locator](#) to find a vaccine near them.

## **Hospital Flexibilities Reminder**

As hospitals continue their ongoing operations, the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) is providing a reminder of flexibilities that have remained in place.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 1135 waiver, updated on May 24, 2021, providing guidance to hospitals serving patients and staff impacted by COVID-19 **are still in place** allowing hospitals to be flexible with their screening of patients, bed flexibilities, etc.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of regulatory flexibilities to help health care providers combat the spread of COVID-19.

Additionally, not-for-profit hospitals can apply for funding through Federal Emergency Management Agency to receive assistance with paying for additional staffing. Click [here](#) for more information.

AHCA remains committed to assisting hospital systems and other health care providers throughout the state. Please contact the Hospital and Outpatient Services Unit at 850-412-4549 if you have any questions.

You may also contact the VFC Program via email at [FloridaVFC@FLHealth.gov](mailto:FloridaVFC@FLHealth.gov), or via phone at 1-877-888-7468, then press Option 1. General VFC Program information and forms can be found on our website at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/immunization/vaccines-for-children/index.html>.

**\*Blast Communication 7/30/2021\***