



COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs for Businesses and Employees

Need Help: During this time of heightened health concern, Beach Cities Health District is available to offer help and support. If you or someone you know in the Beach Cities needs assistance with errands, health-related information or referrals, please call our Assistance, Information & Referral line at **310-374-3426, ext. 256**.

The information below is current as of 2/18/2021. The COVID-19 vaccine development is continually evolving. For up-to-date information, visit bchd.org/covidvaccine. To receive our e-newsletters, sign up on bchd.org/coronavirus.

WHEN CAN I GET VACCINATED?

As of February 18, in Los Angeles County, COVID-19 vaccines are **currently being distributed to Phase 1A and adults 65+**. Phase 1A includes frontline healthcare workers and residents at long-term care facilities. In addition to adults 65+, Phase 1B, Tier 1 includes those at risk of exposure at work in the following sectors: **education and childcare, emergency services, and food and agriculture**. For these remaining groups in Phase 1B, Tier 1, vaccination will open on March 1.

After Phase 1B, Tier 1, the state has indicated that the **next eligible group will be those ages 16 to 64 with underlying health conditions** starting March 15.

HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN IT'S MY TURN TO GET VACCINATED?

To find out when it's your turn to get vaccinated, residents can visit MyTurn.ca.gov. My Turn is the State's new appointment registration platform. My Turn features a streamlined process for residents eligible to receive the vaccine. The system lets residents know if they are currently eligible and, if they are, can help find and book appointments that are available in their area. The site also alerts people who registered to when appointments open up, or when vaccinations are opening up to additional priority groups.

WHEN IT'S MY TURN TO GET VACCINATED, HOW DO I MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?

- **Visit the County's website VaccinateLACounty.com** to check for and to schedule an appointment for vaccination, which fill up very quickly. Appointments are mandatory. Vaccinations are free.
- For those without access to a computer or the internet, or with disabilities, a County call center is open daily from 8 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. to help schedule appointments at **833-540-0473**.
- Individuals are encouraged to use the website whenever possible to sign up for an appointment to avoid long wait times on the phone. The County is expanding capacity at the call center but want to urge people that there are long wait times and there is the ability for people to leave their number and get a call back within 24-36 hours. All available appointments are listed on the County's website. The call center does not have access to any additional appointments.
- You may receive communication from your health care provider with information about COVID-19 vaccinations and how to receive one through your provider.

WHAT ABOUT MY SECOND APPOINTMENT?

- How you get your second dose depends on where you got your first dose. For up-to-date information, visit the County's website here: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/vaccine/2nddose/>
- Every resident is guaranteed a second dose.
- Make sure you are receiving the same type of vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna).
- Bring your white vaccine record card or electronic vaccine card and a photo ID when you go to your second appointment.

HOW IS THE VACCINE ADMINISTERED? WHEN DO I GET MY SECOND DOSE?

Both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines require two doses. The Pfizer-BioNTech doses are given three weeks (21 days) apart and the Moderna four weeks (28 days) apart. You must receive the same vaccine for both doses. **Your second dose should be administered as close to the recommended 21 days or 28 days interval as possible.** However, if it is not feasible to adhere to the recommended interval, the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines may be scheduled for administration up to 6 weeks (42 days) after the first dose. Second doses administered within a grace period of 4 days earlier than the recommended date for the second dose are also considered valid. Source: CDC

SHOULD I STILL FOLLOW THE PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOLS AFTER I GET VACCINATED? HOW LONG WILL IMMUNITY LAST AFTER VACCINATION?

Yes. Although the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines are very effective, no vaccine is 100% effective. We also won't know how long immunity produced by vaccination lasts until we have more data on how well the vaccines work. This is why it remains essential to continue to follow the public health protocols such as staying home as much as possible, wearing face masks, physically distancing yourself from others you do not live with, washing your hands frequently and avoiding crowds. Vaccines are an additional tool in the fight against COVID-19. While experts learn more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions, it will be important for everyone to continue using **all the tools available** to help stop this pandemic. Source: CDC

DO I NEED TO PAY?

No. Your doctor or pharmacy may charge a fee for giving the vaccine, but it will be covered by public and private insurance companies. People without health insurance can get COVID-19 vaccines at no cost. There are no out-of-pocket payments. Source: Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

Resources:

CA Essential Workforce: covid19.ca.gov/essential-workforce

LA County Department of Public Health COVID-19 Vaccine: ph.lacounty.gov/coronavirus/vaccine

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