When can I get the vaccine?

The following groups of people can get the COVID-19 vaccine right now. Call your local health department, local pharmacy, or a healthcare provider to schedule your appointment. Locations for the vaccine can be found at https://coronavirus.utah.gov/vaccine-distribution.

- Healthcare workers who have contact with patients (like dentists, physical or occupational therapists, front office staff in a clinic, medical aesthetics, home healthcare workers, etc.)
- Long-term care facility staff and residents
- First responders like EMS personnel, law enforcement officers, dispatchers, and corrections officers
- K-12 school teacher or staff
- Utahns 50 years and older
- People 16 years or older with certain underlying medical conditions (see below)

People 16 years or older with any of the following medical conditions are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine (if you are 16 or 17 years old, you can ONLY get the Pfizer vaccine):

- Asplenia including splenectomy or a spleen dysfunction
- Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or higher
- Chronic heart disease (not hypertension) including chronic heart failure, ischaemic heart disease, and severe valve or congenital heart disease
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic liver disease including chronic hepatitis B or C, alcohol-related liver disease, primary biliary cirrhosis, or primary sclerosing cholangitis or hemochromatosis
- Cancer diagnosed within the last 5 years that began in the blood, bone marrow, or cells in the immune system. This type of cancer is called hematologic cancer (such as leukemia, lymphoma, and multiple myeloma).
- Cancer diagnosed within the last 1 year that didn’t begin in the blood or bone marrow. This type of cancer is called non-hematologic cancer. (excluding basal and squamous cell cancer diagnoses)
- Diabetes (Type I or Type II)
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from blood, bone marrow, or organ transplant; HIV; long-term use of corticosteroids; or other medicines that weaken the immune system
- Neurologic conditions that impair respiratory function, including cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, epilepsy, motor neuron disease, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, Parkinson’s disease, progressive cerebellar disease, and quadriplegia or hemiplegia
- Receiving dialysis for severe kidney disease
- Receiving immunosuppression therapy
- Sickle cell disease
- Severe chronic respiratory disease (other than asthma) including severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, fibrosing lung disease, bronchiectasis, or cystic fibrosis
- Solid organ transplant recipient
- Stroke and dementia (Alzheimer’s, vascular, or frontotemporal)
You don’t need to get a doctor’s note to schedule your vaccine.

Patients who do not meet these criteria need to wait until those at highest risk have been vaccinated. We recognize that there are conditions outside of this list that are at high risk as well; however, we only have enough vaccine for those who are eligible with these conditions right now. These individuals are at a very high risk of hospitalization and death from COVID-19 and we need to make sure they receive the vaccine as soon as possible.

Who’s next?

We expect COVID-19 vaccines will be available starting in April for other age groups, people with underlying medical conditions not listed above, and those who live in congregate settings and are at higher risk for the virus that causes COVID-19. Vaccines should be available for the general public in late spring or early summer.

You don’t need to “get on a waiting list” to be vaccinated. When the vaccine is available, we expect to have it available at many locations throughout your community. These locations will be posted at https://vaccinefinder.org/.