

COVID Update: October 18, 2021

The Ohio Department of Health has released the guidance it is giving to providers of the booster shots of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. People in the below groups who received two Pfizer shots and are at least six months removed from the second dose are eligible to receive the booster shot:

- * People 65 years and older,
- * or residents in long-term care settings
- * People ages 50 to 64 with certain underlying medical conditions
- * People ages 18 to 49 with certain underlying medical conditions based on their individual benefits and risks.

The CDC has indicated that this is a determination made by the vaccine recipient, but those eligible are encouraged to talk to their healthcare providers if they have any questions. People age 18 and older who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of their job or living in an institutional setting MAY receive a booster shot based on their individual benefits and risks. The CDC has indicated that this is a determination made by the vaccine recipient.

ODH said people who are eligible for the booster will be asked if they qualify but specific proof will not be required. The state is recommending people allow 2 to 3 weeks to get the booster shot. Ohioans can check where to receive the vaccine by walk-in or scheduled appointments here or by calling 1-833-427-5634.

Decisions on boosters for those who received the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccines have yet to be made. However, the nation's top health agencies (FDA and CDC) could approve booster shots for the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines as early as this week. An FDA advisory panel recommended the two vaccines last week.

The agencies may also allow Americans to get a different booster than what they originally received. That would be specifically for the 15 million Americans who got the Johnson & Johnson shot. The approval would come nearly a month after the FDA and the CDC gave Pfizer the green light for Pfizer booster shots.

For more COVID vaccine information, please click on the links below:

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-101521>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination-program>

<https://www.ccbh.net/>

