COVID-19 Third Vaccine Dose FAQs

Who is eligible? The expansion of the Emergency Use Authorization of the Pfizer (ages 12+) and Moderna (ages 18+) COVID-19 vaccines provides for a free third dose for those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised to enhance their protection against the virus. This includes people with a range of conditions, such as recipients of organ or stem cell transplants, people with advance or untreated HIV infection, active recipients of treatment for cancer, people who are taking some medications that weaken the immune system, and others. A full list of conditions can be found on [CDC’s website](https://www.cdc.gov).

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration also concluded that at this time, there is not sufficient data to recommend an additional dose of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine or to allow those who received this vaccine to get an additional shot with either Pfizer or Moderna.

The CDC does not recommend additional doses for any other population at this time.

Individuals with questions should talk to their healthcare provider.

Which vaccines are available for third doses? Pfizer and Moderna will be available for third doses beginning Saturday, August 14. The third mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose should be the same vaccine product as the initial 2-dose mRNA COVID-19 primary vaccine series (Pfizer or Moderna). If the mRNA COVID-19 vaccine product given for the first two doses is not available, the other mRNA COVID-19 vaccine product may be administered. A person should not receive more than three mRNA COVID-19 vaccine doses.

If eligible, how soon can I get the third shot? Immunocompromised individuals should be able to get a third dose of either Pfizer or Moderna vaccines as of Saturday, August 14. The authorizations for these vaccines have been amended to allow for an additional dose to be administered at least four weeks following the completion of the two-dose regimen.

What do I need to bring? Individuals should not be asked for proof of their condition or need a doctor’s note. If individuals don’t have their vaccine card or their digital COVID-19 record via the [Docket app](https://docketapp.com), the vaccine provider should look up the individual’s vaccine record on the state’s vaccine registry.

Where can I get the third shot? Immunocompromised individuals should be able to get a third dose of either Pfizer or Moderna vaccines as of Saturday, August 14, at any location offering those COVID-19 vaccines. All existing active points of dispensing are being instructed to offer third doses. All sites are being advised to accept walk-ins for third dose administration. To find a vaccination location, visit [covid19.nj.gov/finder](https://covid19.nj.gov/finder).

What if I or a family member is eligible and homebound? Caregivers or representatives of immunocompromised homebound individuals can call the New Jersey Vaccine Call Center at 855-568-0545 for additional guidance.

For more information, view the [CDC statement](https://www.cdc.gov).