

COVID-19 Vaccine Available for Everyone Ages 12 and Up

Stopping COVID-19 requires using all available tools, including vaccination. Vaccines are now available for ages 12 and up!

Is the vaccine safe for my child? YES

Vaccines have been shown to be safe and effective in trials of youth ages 12-15, including Native American youth.

In my life, I have seen how vaccines have helped protect our people from diseases. Our precious youth can now receive COVID-19 vaccines. This will help keep them safe and help stop the spread of the virus in our communities.

COVID-19 vaccines prevent people from getting severely sick with COVID-19

COVID-19 vaccines approved for use in the U.S. have been shown in large trials to be safe and effective. During the trials, youth who got the COVID-19 vaccine were protected from COVID-19 disease.

Like other vaccines used in the U.S., COVID-19 vaccines may cause temporary side effects such as:

- soreness where the shot is given
- chills or fever
- headache
- muscle or joint pain
- nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- tiredness

Side effects are normal and common for any vaccine. For vaccines with two doses, people experience more intense side effects with the second dose. Side effects go away within a few days. **If there are concerns about side effects, contact a health care provider.**

Vaccinating youth helps bring the crisis to an end

Many years of work on vaccines made it possible for scientists to develop COVID-19 vaccines soon after the pandemic began. Vaccines must go through all required steps to prove they are safe and effective before they are recommended.

Following the success of the adult vaccine trials, the trials began to enroll youth ages 12-15 years in October 2020. This age group responded very similarly to people 16-25 years of age, and none of the youth who got the vaccine got sick with COVID-19.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized COVID-19 vaccine for youth 12-15 years. Trials with children 11 years and younger are ongoing. COVID-19 vaccines are an important tool we can use to end this crisis.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccine development:

[CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.CDC.gov/coronavirus)

Find out where to access vaccines by contacting your local tribal or state health department or by contacting your child's health care provider.

Questions about vaccines?

See "Understanding COVID-19 Vaccines" on the Resource Library (caih.jhu.edu/resource-library)



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