

# OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

## PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

- **FDA UPDATE: Pfizer vaccine can be stored at refrigerator temperatures longer** – The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine now can be stored at standard refrigerator temperatures for up to a month after it is thawed. [The U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\) has authorized extended refrigerator storage for the vaccine](#), simplifying receipt, storage, and administration of the Pfizer vaccine for all providers and healthcare workers handling the vaccine. Previously, thawed, undiluted vaccine vials could be stored in the refrigerator for up to five days. Now, thawed, undiluted Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine vials can be stored in the refrigerator at 2-8 degrees Celsius (35-46 degrees Fahrenheit) for up to one month.
  - The FDA has updated the Pfizer vaccine [Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine \(Vaccination Providers\)](#) with the new storage requirements.
  - Providers who currently have Pfizer vaccine stored in standard refrigerators should note that vaccine will have a new beyond-use date/time (BUD) that is one month from the date it was placed in the refrigerator. Providers should add a label to reflect the cumulative refrigeration time.
- **NEW RESOURCES:** The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) offers the following new resources at [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov):
  - [Vax-a-Million Toolkit](#) – ODH, in partnership with the Ohio Lottery, has created a new [communications toolkit](#) to help providers and community partners share information about statewide drawings for Ohioans who receive a COVID-19 vaccine. The drawings are designed to increase awareness of vaccine availability and efficacy and incentivize Ohioans to get vaccinated. Prizes include five four-year full-ride scholarships, including room and board, tuition, and books, to any Ohio state college or university for ages 12-17), and five \$1 million prizes (for ages 18 and older). More info: [ohiovaxamillion.com](https://ohiovaxamillion.com).
  - [Frequently asked questions about youth vaccinations](#) – ODH has created a new [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document to answer common questions from parents, guardians, and youth about COVID-19 vaccines. The document shares information about the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine, parental consent, where children can be vaccinated, and more.
  - [CDC Pediatric Healthcare Professionals COVID-19 Vaccination Toolkit](#) – As parents' most trusted source of information on vaccines, pediatric healthcare professionals play a critical role in helping parents/guardians understand the importance of COVID-19 vaccination and assuring them that [COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective](#) for their children. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has created a [communications toolkit](#), including educational materials for parents, answers to frequently asked questions, and information about the coadministration of vaccines.
- **Youth vaccinations** – Following federal authorization of COVID-19 vaccinations for youth ages 12 and older last week and the CDC's recommendation for coadministration of the COVID-19 vaccine with other immunizations, the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) (AAP) issued a new policy statement. The statement expresses support for vaccinating children ages 12 and older and for giving other vaccines at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccine for children who have fallen behind on their immunizations. "This is truly an exciting development that allows us to protect a large population of children and help them regain their lives after a really rough year," said AAP President Lee Savio Beers, MD, FAAP. "We've seen the harm done to children's mental and emotional health as they've missed out on so many experiences during the pandemic. Vaccinating children will protect them and allow them to fully engage in all of the activities — school, sports, socializing with friends and family — that are so important to their health and development." Vaccinations for youth, with parent/guardian consent, are now underway across the state at pediatric practices, children's hospitals, local health departments, pharmacies, and primary care practices, and other provider locations.

## RESOURCES

### HOW TO ENROLL

[Vaccine Provider Enrollment Information](#)

### PROVIDER RESOURCES

[Vaccine Provider Resources Page](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccination Program for Businesses and Organizations](#)

[Vax-a-Million Flyer](#)

[Vax-a-Million Toolkit](#)

[Homebound Vaccinations Playbook](#)

[Provider Guidance on Vaccine Administration Fees](#)

### RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC

[coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine)

[Get the Shot vaccine scheduling system](#)

[Myths vs. Facts](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ](#)

[FAQs for Parents, Guardians, and Youth eligible for the Pfizer vaccine](#)

[Safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines](#)

[Preparing for your COVID-19 vaccination](#)

[Acceptable forms of ID](#)

[Communications Resources Hub](#)

## SPOTLIGHT: INNOVATIVE IDEAS

**THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS** – Pike County General Health District has partnered with the county's largest employer, a family resort, township trustees, and others to bring COVID-19 vaccine on-site clinics to its residents, especially the county's rural population.

- Pike County's largest employer, the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS) site, or A-Plant, in Piketon, partnered with the health department to host an on-site clinic, where 192 employees of the Department of Energy, Fluor, and other contractors were vaccinated.
- On Saturday, May 22, the health department hosted a COVID-19 vaccination clinic at Long's Retreat Family Resort with giveaways including free go-kart rides, water slide passes, swimming passes, and other incentives.

*Innovative Ideas* highlights special ways providers and organizations are encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations. Submit your innovative ideas to the ODH Office of Communications by email to [Megan.Smith@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:Megan.Smith@odh.ohio.gov) or [Rachel.Sayre@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:Rachel.Sayre@odh.ohio.gov).

## TALKING POINTS

As a trusted voice in your community, these talking points are designed to help you communicate the most current information and answer questions.

- COVID-19 vaccination can help protect your child from getting COVID-19. Although fewer children have been sick with COVID-19, compared with adults, children can be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, can get sick from COVID-19, and can spread the virus that causes COVID-19 to others. Many children with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS-C) have also had the virus that causes COVID-19. The CDC is investigating this rare, but serious complication of COVID-19. Getting your child vaccinated helps to protect your child and your family. Vaccination is now recommended for everyone 12 years and older. Currently, the safe and effective Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is the only one available to children 12 years and older.
- You may have side effects after vaccination. These are normal signs that your body is building protection. The side effects from COVID-19 vaccination may affect your ability to do some daily activities, and they should go away in a few days. Some people have reported experiencing soreness or redness at the site of the injection, body aches, tiredness, headaches, chills or fever.
  - Severe reactions are rare. If you have allergies — especially severe ones that include allergies to other vaccines or ingredients in the vaccines — discuss the COVID-19 vaccine with your doctor, who can assess your risk and provide more information about if and how you can get vaccinated safely.
  - Women younger than 50 years old should be aware of the rare but increased risk of a serious side effect linked to the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. A rare condition that involves blood clots occurs at a rate of about seven per 1 million in vaccinated women between 18 and 49 years old. For women 50 years and older and men of all ages, this condition is more rare. If you have any questions about what's best for you, please consult with your healthcare provider.
- COVID-19 vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. It typically takes two weeks after your final vaccine dose for the body to build protection against the virus. At that time, you are considered fully vaccinated and can start doing some things you had stopped doing because of the pandemic.
- Vaccines are available at locations across the state, including hospitals, local health departments, primary care and pediatric offices, community health centers, mass vaccination clinics, and pharmacies. Book an appointment near you at [gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov).

## SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- What is the difference between the available COVID-19 vaccines, and how do they work? <http://bit.ly/AboutVaccinesOhio>
- It's time to roll up your sleeves, Ohio. Let's get to work to get back to the theater, dining out, fairs and festivals, and the stands. [gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov) #InThisTogetherOhio <https://youtu.be/rRs5QgR-Doo>

### [Mass vaccination clinics](#)

### COVID-19 VACCINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

This [toolkit](#) offers talking points, language tips, social media language, and trusted resources to help you better communicate about the safe, effective COVID-19 vaccines.

### PFIZER RESOURCES

[Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Providers](#)

[Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Patient](#)

### MODERNA RESOURCES

[EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccination Providers](#)

[EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

### JOHNSON & JOHNSON RESOURCES

[EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccination Providers](#)

[EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

### CDC RESOURCES

[Vaccinate with Confidence](#)

[About V-Safe after vaccination health checker](#)

[Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[Vaccine safety](#)

[Free printable resources](#)

[COVID-19 Toolkits](#)

[How to protect yourselves after you've been fully vaccinated](#)