How to Get the COVID Vaccine

A Social Story
There is now a vaccine for COVID-19! Many people have already gotten the shot. Starting April 5 all people over 16 that live in Florida will be able to get the shot!

florida-card.org | Center for Autism & Related Disabilities
There are 2 different types of vaccines. One of them is just one shot and the other one has 2 shots. The nurse that does my first shot will tell me if I need to sign up for a second one. If I am not sure, I should ask.
One way to get the vaccine, is to “pre-register.” That means that I can sign up to have someone call or email me when a shot is available. In Florida, I can use this website to pre-register for my vaccine: 
https://myvaccine.fl.gov
I can also look for a shot on my own. There are many places that are scheduling appointments for vaccines right now.
Here is a website that can help me find a place to get my shot:

https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/vaccines/vaccine-locator/

Know Before You Go

Demand for the COVID-19 vaccine is far in excess of the supply the state has received so far. It is anticipated that additional supplies will be coming soon.

Florida has many sites that are providing COVID-19 vaccines, but supplies are limited and appointments may not be available at many of these sites. The state is prioritizing:

- Persons 65 years of age and older
- Health care personnel with direct patient contact
- Residents and staff of long term care facilities
- Persons deemed to be extremely vulnerable to COVID-19 by hospital providers

Please be aware that some locations are only serving very specific populations, such as frontline health care workers.

Appointments may be required and vaccine availability will vary from day to day and week to week as we work to provide vaccines to the most vulnerable first.
I will have to select my county and/or city to find one near me.
Some counties have their own website to find shots and these might have more options than the state website. This website gives options for Orange County: Coronavirus - Vaccination Sites (ocfl.net). I do not need to live in Orange County to get my shot there.
This website shows options for Seminole County: [Seminole County (seminolecountyfl.gov)](seminolecountyfl.gov). I do not need to live in Seminole County to get my shot there.

---

**VACCINE INFORMATION**

**SEMINOLE COUNTY'S VACCINE DISTRIBUTION SITE APPOINTMENTS**

Seminole County’s fixed vaccine distribution site is located at the former Sears store at the Oviedo Mall, 1360 Oviedo Mall Boulevard, Oviedo (enter from the parking lot closest to District Eat & Play).

*Check for available appointments at links below; cancellations may cause appointments to open:*

- **Appointments for March 30th - April 3rd, 2021 (Pfizer)**
- **Appointments for April 5-10, 2021 (Pfizer)**

For technical assistance in booking appointments call our Citizens Information Line at 407-665-0000.

**MOBILE VACCINE SITE APPOINTMENTS**

In an effort to better serve all individuals across Seminole County, the Seminole County Office of Emergency Management and Florida Department of Health in Seminole have partnered to create a mobile vaccine unit, that travels to various community centers, churches and places of worship. These events are open to the surrounding community.

- **Sanford: Thursday, April 8, 2021 (Pfizer)**

**VACCINES AT LOCAL PHARMACIES**

Many area pharmacies offer vaccines by appointment; please see below links for availability:

- Public: [Please check for appointment availability](florida-card.org)
- Wal-Mart: [Please check for appointment availability](florida-card.org)
- Sam’s Club: [Please check for appointment availability](florida-card.org)
- CVS: [Please check for appointment availability](florida-card.org)
- Walgreens: [Please check for appointment availability](florida-card.org)
Or I can call my local health department and they can help me get an appointment too!

- Brevard: 866-201-5420
- Lake: 866-201-6909
- Orange: 866-201-3604
- Osceola: 866-201-6507
- Seminole: 866-201-7180
- Sumter: 866-201-7196
- Volusia: 866-201-7314

If my county is not listed here, I can call my CARD center or call 1800-9Autism for help to find the phone number for my county.
On the day of my shot, I need to wear a shirt that will make it easy for me to get the shot. Since the shot will go into my upper arm, near my shoulder, a loose fitting t-shirt or a sleeveless shirt are good to wear. If it is cold outside, I can wear a sweater over my shirt that I can take off when it is time for my shot.
When I arrive, someone will check me in. I need to wear a mask and they will ask me to use hand sanitizer. If I have a parent or caregiver with me, I will stay with them; they will help me. I will be asked to stay away from everyone else until it is time for me to get my shot.
I will also have to fill out a form saying I understand there could be side effects. Common side effects are headache, fever, and a sore arm. Not everyone will have side effects.
All people giving the shot will be wearing masks, and some may wear a face shield too. This is so they protect themselves, just like I will do.
When it is time for my shot, I will sit down with a nurse. They will clean my arm where the shot will be given. Then they will put the shot in my arm. I will need to stay still to receive the shot. The shot will take less than 10 seconds to be done. Some people count to 10 to know when it will be finished. After my shot is finished, the nurse will put a band-aid over it.
I will be given a card with information about what vaccine I got and when I got it. If I need a second shot, it will also tell me when I need to come back. This card is important to keep and if I do need a second shot I will need to bring it with me.
After the shot, I will be asked to wait in a room for 15-30 minutes before I can go. This is to make sure I feel well after the shot. Most people will feel just fine. If I don’t feel well, I need to tell the nurse.
After the time has passed, I will be allowed to leave. It is important that I rest and drink water to make sure I stay healthy!
Some people will need a second shot after 3-4 weeks. If I am told that I need to get a second shot, then I will have to sign up, go to the vaccination center, and get the shot again. I must bring my card back.
2 weeks after I have finished my vaccine, I will have built up protection against COVID-19. It is important to still wear a mask, wash my hands, and socially distance to keep everyone safe and healthy.
Some things to remember:

• It is normal on the first day to have some side effects after the shot, like a headache, soreness in my body, and a sore arm where I got my shot. This will go away after 1 to 3 days. If I am in a lot of pain and not just sore, I should call my doctor. If I have trouble breathing, I need to call 911. Most people will only have mild side effects and won’t need to call their doctor.

• I must be over 16 years old to get the vaccine

• Florida has a COVID-19 Call center. I can call them at any time with this number: (866) 779-6121. They can answer any questions I have about the vaccine.

For updates about the vaccine and distribution from Governor Ron DeSantis, text FLCOVID19 to 888777.

I can also call my local CARD center if I have more questions. If I am not sure how to call my local CARD center, I can call 1-800-9Autism.