

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine for People Under 18 Years Old

11/3/2021

At this time, the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is the only COVID-19 vaccine that has been studied and authorized for use by people ages 5 years and older. Data from Pfizer vaccine studies show the vaccine is safe and effective for people as young as 5 years old. Other vaccine manufacturers are also studying their vaccines in younger age groups but have not yet received authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Parent or guardian consent is needed for vaccination

Parent or guardian consent is needed for COVID-19 vaccination of children 5-17 years old, except under certain circumstances. Refer to Minnesota Statutes, sections 144.341 through 144.347. We encourage a parent or guardian to go to the vaccine appointment with their child to learn about the COVID-19 vaccine and provide consent for the child to receive the vaccine.

If a parent/guardian is not able to go with the child to get their vaccine, ask the provider about their consent process and access to the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) fact sheet: [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers 12 years of age and older \(www.fda.gov/media/153716/download\)](https://www.fda.gov/media/153716/download) or [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers 5-11 years of age \(www.fda.gov/media/153717/download\)](https://www.fda.gov/media/153717/download). This is like the Vaccine Information Statements given before other routine vaccinations. Make sure all your questions are answered. For state-sponsored community vaccination sites, a parent or guardian must be present for children age 15 and younger.

Looking for Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine appointments

COVID-19 vaccine is free for everyone. You can use the map on [COVID-19 Vaccine for Children and Teens \(mn.gov/vaxforkids\)](https://mn.gov/vaxforkids) to search for providers who are offering COVID-19 vaccine. Before you go, make sure the vaccine location provides the Pfizer vaccine that matches your child's age. The vaccine for 5- to 11-year-olds is a smaller dose of vaccine than the Pfizer vaccine for people age 12 and older. Not all Pfizer vaccine providers will have the vials specifically packaged for 5- to 11-year-old doses in their supply.

You can also find COVID-19 vaccine appointments at [Vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov) and through local public health departments at [Minnesota: Find a Vaccination Clinic \(prepmo.health.state.mn.us/clinic/search\)](https://prepmo.health.state.mn.us/clinic/search). Both allow you to filter by vaccine product to search for what you need.



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Contact health.communications@state.mn.us to request an alternate format.