The New COVID-19 Vaccine for 2023-2024

September 30, 2023

A new COVID-19 vaccine was approved to protect everyone this fall and winter.

- Everyone 6 months and older should get the updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine.
- It's especially important for older adults and people with high risk conditions.

The new COVID-19 vaccine is worth getting, even if you've been vaccinated before or had COVID.

- It will strengthen your body's ability to fight the new variants of COVID-19 that are spreading now.
- Studies show that staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations protects people from long COVID. Long COVID includes long-lasting symptoms like difficulty with thinking or breathing, bad headaches, and extreme tiredness.
- Anyone can get long COVID, even if you aren't in a high risk group. So the new vaccine protects **everyone**.

Public Health offers the new COVID-19 vaccine at the Kent Public Health Center.

- Where: <u>25742 104th Ave SE, Kent, WA 98030</u>
- Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 9:30 am 6 pm (closed 12:30-1:30 pm), by appointment
- To make an appointment:
 - Schedule online at Kingcounty.gov/KentVaccine. You can register in Chinese, English, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Vietnamese and few other languages.
 - Schedule by phone: Call 1-206-477-6950 and choose option #4. You can ask for your language if you need an interpreter.

Other COVID-19 vaccination options:

Check <u>Vaccines.gov</u> for pharmacies and clinics that have the new COVID-19 vaccine.

Public Health offers:

- In-home vaccination if you have a injury, disability, or health condition that makes it difficult to leave home
- Community vaccination events

Get more information at <u>kingcounty.gov/vaccine</u>. Use the Google translate menu for other languages.

Cost of the new COVID-19 vaccine if you have insurance:

- Most insurance will pay for the whole cost. This includes Medicare and Medicaid/CHIP, also known as "Apple Health." You will need to get vaccinated by a provider in your insurance's network.
- Vaccine locations will ask if you have insurance.
- Remember to have your insurance information when you make an appointment and when go to get vaccinated.

You can get free COVID-19 vaccination if you are uninsured or your insurance doesn't cover vaccines.

Free vaccination is available from the "Bridge Access Program." Locations include:

- CVS, Walgreens and some independent pharmacies
- Community Health Centers
- Public Health's Kent Vaccination Center

Find locations participating in the Bridge Access Program on <u>Vaccines.gov</u>.

Children and teens who don't have insurance can get free vaccination from:

- Providers in the Vaccines for Children program
- School Based Health Centers in many schools in King County
- Back-to-School Vaccination Clinics in south King County. You can get COVID-19 vaccines and all childhood vaccines required by school.)

Information about these options: See "Find a vaccination provider for uninsured/underinsured children" on <u>kingcounty.gov/findaclinic</u>. Translated information is available.

Help your body fight the new variants. Get the new COVID-19 vaccine even if you've been vaccinated or had COVID.

- You should get the new vaccine if it's been 2 months or more since you got your last COVID-19 vaccine.
- Get the new vaccine if you've missed getting a booster earlier or if you've never been vaccinated.
- If you've had COVID recently, you can get the new COVID-19 vaccine once you've recovered.

It's safe to get the COVID shot and the flu shot at the same time.

- If you want to avoid separate appointments for vaccination, you can get the shots at the same time.
- You can get free flu shots at the Kent Vaccine Center when you get a COVID-19 shot.

Questions about the new COVID-19 vaccine?

- Call Washington State Department of Health information line: 1-800-525-0127. Say the name of your language for interpretation.
- Go to <u>kingcounty.gov/covid/vaccine</u>. Use the Google translate menu for other languages.