

# Frequently Asked Questions: COVID Vaccine Access

## What Oregonians Need to Know Right Now

### Can I get a COVID vaccine at a pharmacy today?

Right now, Oregonians can get a COVID-19 vaccine at their provider's office or at the pharmacy with a provider prescription. It is always best to contact your provider or pharmacy first to check current vaccine availability.

### Why do I need a prescription?

The federal government has not adopted a protocol for the use of this new formula but may during the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) meeting on September 18–19 when protocol is anticipated to be adopted. This delay is causing confusion and disruption in access to this important vaccine. OHA is currently working with clinicians, pharmacies, and community partners to restore access to COVID-19 vaccines without a prescription and to make getting a prescription and a shot as simple as possible. We hope to have updates soon.

### What should I do if a pharmacy turned me away?

We're sorry that happened. No pharmacist or health care provider wants to turn a patient away from care. Please visit [VaccineFinder.org](https://vaccinefinder.org) to find available vaccines.

### Will my insurance cover this?

Coverage depends on your plan. Many people on Medicaid/OHP, Medicare, and Marketplace plans have coverage, but it varies. If you get a bill you were not expecting, please contact your insurance provider or visit our [webpage for OHP member billing assistance](#). We are working across departments and with insurers to get agreements to cover the vaccines recommended by the West Coast Health Alliance in Oregon.

## I don't have a regular doctor. What do I do?

If you need help finding a doctor, [211 Info](#) is a good place to start. Specializing in health and social service assistance, they can be reached at [help@211info.org](mailto:help@211info.org) or by dialing 2-1-1. Language interpreters are available.

## Are walk-in clinics available?

Some clinics accept walk-ins with a clinician on-site who can write a prescription, but availability varies. Find COVID-19 and flu vaccines at [VaccineFinder.org](https://vaccinefinder.org).

## Who can I contact if I need more help?

For vaccine-related questions, contact the Oregon Immunization Program Help Desk, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. PT, at 1-800-980-9431 or [VFC.help@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:VFC.help@odhsoha.oregon.gov).

For assistance finding medical coverage for your child or yourself, visit [OregonHealthCare.gov](https://OregonHealthCare.gov) or call 855-268-3767 (all relay calls accepted).

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You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer free of charge. Contact the Office of Community Health and Engagement at [community.outreach@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:community.outreach@oha.oregon.gov). We accept all relay calls.

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200-1130100 (09/2025)