



## Memorandum

TO: USG Staff  
FROM: The Office of Human Resources  
DATE: November 08, 2021  
SUBJECT: COVID-19 vaccine boosters and additional doses

---

Dear Colleagues,

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized, and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) now recommends, that people who meet one or more of the criteria below are eligible to receive a [COVID-19 booster](#).

- Received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two months ago and are age 18 or older
- Received a second dose of either Pfizer-BioNTech or the Moderna vaccine at least six months ago and:
  - Are age 65 or older;
  - Live in a long-term care facility;
  - Are age 18 or older and have an underlying medical condition that could put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19; or
  - Are age 18 or older and work or live in a location that puts them at high risk of exposure to COVID-19.

The FDA has also determined that individuals may choose which COVID-19 vaccine they receive for the booster shot. Some people may prefer the vaccine type they originally received, and others may choose a different booster. The CDC's recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.

In addition, the CDC recommends that people with [moderately to severely compromised immune systems](#) receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. This is different from receiving a vaccine "booster". Studies have found that some immunocompromised people do not always build the same level of immunity after vaccination the way non-immunocompromised people do and may benefit from an additional dose to ensure adequate protection against COVID-19.

We recommend that you talk to your healthcare provider if you have questions about whether you should receive a booster or additional shot, or if you are not sure which booster is right for you.

We encourage eligible individuals to use any of the following resources to get a booster or additional dose:

- On the UMD campus, the University Health Center offers Pfizer vaccine boosters. The health center does not offer Moderna or J&J boosters at this time. You can schedule an appointment by visiting [myuhc.umd.com](https://myuhc.umd.com).
- Montgomery County offers numerous options for vaccines and boosters at one of its clinics.
- In the community, retail pharmacies, clinics, and local and state vaccination sites also offer booster appointments and some locations may offer walk-up vaccination times. You may look up available vaccine sites at the [State of Maryland vaccine locator website](#).
- The CDC has tools to find vaccine providers across the country. Visit [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov) to find a vaccination clinic.

Please visit the [USG Onward](#) page for COVID-19-related updates.

Thank you,

Nitshu

**Nitshu Joshi, M.P.S.**

Manager  
Office of Human  
Resources

**The Universities at Shady Grove**

9636 Gudelsky Drive, Building III, Office 3155  
Rockville, MD 20850  
T 301-738-6114 | F 301-738-6140

[shadygrove.umd.edu](https://shadygrove.umd.edu)

[USG HR BLOG](#)