

COVID-19 Booster Shots Vs. Third Dose

What's the difference?



Third dose

- Available to Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech recipients.
- Can be received 28 days after second dose.
- Given for people with moderate or severely weakened immune systems who cannot fight off infections well (people with cancer, organ transplant, etc.)

Booster shot

- Pfizer and Moderna boosters can be received 6 months after second dose. Johnson and Johnson can be given 2 months after the initial dose.
- Available for adults 65 and older, patients in long term care facilities, and adults 18-64 with medical or occupational risk.
- You have the choice to mix and match boosters with a single dose of any of the authorized COVID-19 vaccine boosters. Remember, that mixing and matching vaccines may be considered for the booster dose only.



Where can I receive a booster or third dose?

You can receive it at your **local pharmacy, health department, or from your primary care physician.**



Where can I get more information?

For questions about vaccinations, boosters, and testing, call the COVID-19 hotline at **1(800) 889-3931**. You can also email your questions to **DPH.SICK@Illinois.gov**.



Why should I receive a booster or third dose?

Protection against the virus may decrease over time and be less effective against variants. **You can now get your COVID-19 vaccine and a flu vaccine during the same session.**