

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD**  
State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

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## Important Updates Regarding Expanding Populations Eligible to Receive the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, and Reporting Adverse Events

November 5, 2021

### **Expanding Populations Eligible to Receive the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to Include Persons 5 Years Through 11 Years of Age**

On October 29, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) expanded the [emergency use authorization](#) (EUA) for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to include children 5 years through 11 years of age.

For more information regarding the latest guidelines, please use the links below:

- [FDA News Release](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Health Care Providers Administering Vaccine](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

### **Florida COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering and Distribution Information**

Health care providers may now place orders for Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric COVID-19 vaccines in [Florida SHOTS](#). All enrolled COVID-19 vaccine providers who wish to order Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric COVID-19 vaccine may order in 300 dose increments; however, on November 9, 2021 pediatric COVID-19 vaccine may be ordered in 100 dose increments. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), doses ordered on or before November 9, 2021 are expected to arrive by November 12, 2021.

The Florida Department of Health's Immunization Section placed pre-book orders for eleven county health departments (CHDs) to serve as regional hubs for vaccine storage and distribution. These CHDs were selected based on location, population size, storage capacity and capability to transfer vaccine to other health care providers. According to the CDC, vaccine shipments are expected to arrive between November 6-12, 2021.

### **Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) Reporting**

Health care providers should report the following adverse events to VAERS:

- Any adverse event that occurs after the administration of a vaccine licensed in the United States, whether it is or is not clear that a vaccine caused the adverse event,
- Vaccine administration errors,
- Vaccine manufacturers are required to report to VAERS all adverse events that come to their attention.

Health care providers are required to report the following adverse events to VAERS:

- Any adverse event listed in the [VAERS Table of Reportable Events Following Vaccination](#) that occurs within the specified time period after vaccinations,
- An adverse event listed by the vaccine manufacturer as a contraindication to further doses of the vaccine.

Online reporting is strongly encouraged. Please report clinically important adverse events that occur after

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vaccination of children and adults, even if you are not sure whether the vaccine caused the adverse event. To make a report, please visit: <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html> and notify the state health department of any severe reactions reported.

**Pre-book Ordering**

Should you choose to obtain vaccines from the pre-book order from the CHDs, please use the following contact information:

- Alachua County Health Department: Vicki Ennis, 352-334-8811
- Broward County Health Department: Barbara Bateman, 954-847-8007
- Clay County Health Department: Robin Thomas, 904-838-5424
- Duval County Health Department: Tawanda Washington, 904-253-1055
- Escambia County Health Department: Beate Bolton, 850-595-6500 Ext., 1200
- Hillsborough County Health Department: Jylmarie Lewis, 813-559-4649
- Indian River County Health Department: Maryjo Sullivan, 772-794-7478
- Lee County Health Department: Marie George, 239-332-9505
- Leon County Health Department: Eugene Buerkle, 850-404-6270
- Marion County Health Department: Michael Smith, 352-644-2660
- Miami-Dade County Health Department: Jean Toussaint, 305-575-3831
- Okaloosa County Health Department: Suzanne Clemons, 850-344-0606
- Orange County Health Department: Gissella Suarez, 407-723-4081 or 407-340-1910
- Palm Beach County Health Department: Dana Marie Heinlein, 561-671-4052
- Pinellas County Health Department: Norma Osgood, 727-820-4105
- Polk County Health Department: Tammy Durden, 863-578-2113
- Sarasota County Health Department: Donna Keith, 941-861-2914
- St. Lucie County Health Department: Daniel Buchin, 772-873-4885
- Volusia County Health Department: Patricia Boswell, 386-274-0799