COVID-19 FYI

Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council
CREATING CHANGE • IMPROVING LIVES
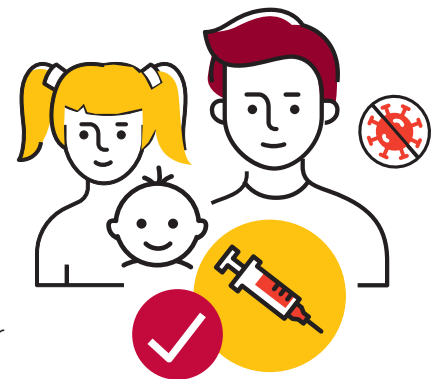
Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

COVID-19 VACCINES FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

CAN CHILDREN & TEENS GET COVID-19 SHOTS?

Yes. People 6 months and older can get COVID-19 vaccines (shots) made by Pfizer or Moderna.

ARE THE SAME SHOTS GIVEN TO ADULTS?

Yes, but children get a smaller dosage (amount of medicine) than teens and adults. The number of shots you get depends on your age and the whether you choose Pfizer or Moderna. The links on the next page have more information.

ARE COVID-19 SHOTS SAFE FOR CHILDREN & TEENS ?

Yes! They met strong safety rules and were tested on thousands of children and teens. The tests showed the shots are safe and help protect them from COVID-19.

SHOULD I GET MY CHILD THE COVID-19 SHOTS?

Yes, unless your child's doctor says they should not get COVID-19 shots. Children and teens who have not had their shots can get very sick, need hospital care, and even die from COVID-19. They can also easily spread COVID-19 to others, even if you do not know they have the disease.

Over 13 million children in the United States have gotten COVID-19:

· Tens of thousands of them have been hospitalized.
· Almost half have ongoing problems that may last for weeks, months, or longer. There are about 100 types of ongoing health problems related to COVID-19 in children.
· Hundreds of children have died from COVID-19.

The shots are a safe way to protect your child, your family, and others from COVID-19. So, get them as soon as possible!

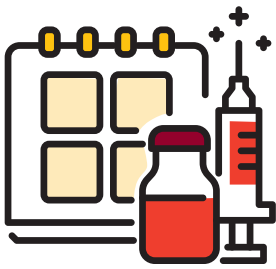*Keep yourself, your family, and your community safe!*

ARE THERE SIDE EFFECTS?

Children and teens may have some side effects from the shots. It is a normal sign that their body is building protection against COVID-19. **Some children may not experience any side effects at all.**

Side effects are usually mild and do not last long. Your child might have some pain, redness, and swelling where they got the shot. They might also feel tired, have headaches, muscle and joint pain, mild fever, and chills.

The benefits of COVID-19 shots are much greater than the risks.

IS IT OKAY TO GET A COVID-19 SHOT AT THE SAME TIME AS OTHER SHOTS?

Yes. Getting COVID-19 shots at the same time as other shots is safe. This includes the flu shot.

WHERE CAN I GET COVID-19 SHOTS IN MARYLAND?

You can get COVID-19 shots at pharmacies, doctor's offices, urgent care clinics, clinics in schools, and local health departments all over Maryland.

To find where you can get COVID-19 shots near you, go to: **covidvax.maryland.gov**.

ARE COVID-19 SHOTS REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL?

No. Children do not have to have COVID-19 shots to go to school.

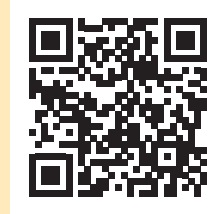## TO GET HELP AND MORE INFORMATION

HELP GETTING A VACCINE:
Call the GoVax support center, or have someone call for you: **855-MD-GoVAX (855-634-6829)**

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT FOR YOUR CHILD'S COVID-19 SHOTS:
Use the QR code below (point your phone's camera at the code square and follow the instructions on your screen), or visit this website: **https://covidlink.maryland.gov/**

THE LATEST NEWS:
Follow @GoVAXMaryland on Twitter.

Sign up for e-newsletters using the QR code below (point your phone's camera at the code square and follow the instructions on your screen), or visit this website: **https://covidlink.maryland.gov/content/vaccine/govax/**

Keep yourself, your family, and your community safe!