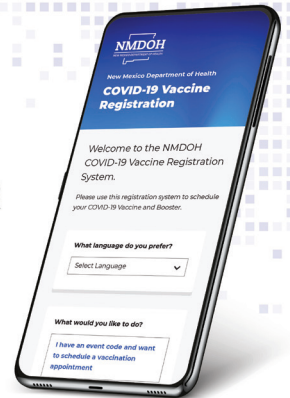


COVID-19 VACCINE FAQ'S



HOW DO I REGISTER FOR THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

Please use the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) registration tool available at VaccineNM.org. When a vaccine is available, NMDOH will send you a notification to schedule your appointment.



[VACCINENM.ORG](https://VaccineNM.org)

For more FAQ's on the registration tool, visit: cvvaccine.nmhealth.org/faqs or call 1.855.600.3453

Will the vaccine be safe?

Clinical trials involving many thousands of participants are used to investigate possible COVID-19 vaccines. These studies generate scientific data and other information that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) uses to determine vaccine safety and effectiveness.

After the FDA makes its determination, an independent group of scientific experts – the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) – reviews available data before making vaccine recommendations to the CDC.

That means that the scientific data from the research on each of these vaccines has been reviewed by two independent teams of experts.

Should I get the vaccine?

Yes. While many people with COVID-19 have only a mild illness, others may get a severe case or they may even die. There is no way to know in advance how COVID-19 will affect you, even if you are not at increased risk of severe complications.

Also, if you get infected, you may spread the disease to friends, family and others around you. COVID-19 vaccination helps protect you by creating an antibody response without having to experience sickness. The sooner most people are vaccinated and protected against COVID-19 disease, the sooner New Mexicans and all Americans can get back to normal life.

Will there be enough vaccine for everyone?

Vaccines will be prioritized for frontline health care workers in hospital settings. The state will then provide vaccine to other frontline healthcare workers and first responders, as well as staff and residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities. This is in line with federal recommendations.

This means that not everyone will be able to be vaccinated right away, and vaccine may not be available to the general public until mid-2021.

The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get a COVID-19 vaccine when large quantities are available. We expect that several thousand vaccination providers and numerous locations throughout the state will eventually be available, including doctors' offices, retail pharmacies, hospitals, community locations, and federally qualified health centers.

What will it cost to get a COVID-19 vaccine? What if I don't have health insurance?

The vaccine is free to all people.

Vaccination providers will be able to charge an administration fee that is reimbursed by the patient's public or private insurance company or, for uninsured patients, by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Provider Relief Fund.

The federal government is requiring vaccine providers to administer vaccine to people regardless of their insurance status or immigration status. And they must administer without charging them for the vaccine.

Does the Governor or the Department of Health intend or have plans to make the COVID-19 vaccine mandatory?

No.

Can I stop wearing a mask after I have been vaccinated?

There is not enough information currently available to say that it's safe to stop wearing a mask after getting the vaccine. A mask protects you, and it also protects your family, friends and community. You should continue to wear a mask, practice social distancing, and wash your hands regularly when around people outside your household.

Will the COVID-19 vaccine make me test positive?

No. Vaccines currently in clinical trials in the United States won't cause you to test positive on viral tests, which are used to see if you have current infection.

If your body develops an immune response, which is the goal of vaccination, there is a possibility you may test positive on some antibody tests. These tests indicate you had a previous infection and that you may have some level of protection against the virus.

REGISTER TODAY