



Shawnee County Health Department

Shawnee County Health Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA RELEASE

Additional Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine Authorized by KDHE for Immunocompromised Individuals

Topeka, Kan. – On Friday August 13, 2021 the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) announced that Kansas providers may now administer an additional dose of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines to individuals who are moderately or severely immunocompromised and have already been vaccinated with a primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines. The booster dose should be at least 28 days after completion of that series. Booster doses are NOT approved for individuals who received the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine.

The additional COVID-19 vaccine dose is recommended for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised due to a health condition or medical treatment. This includes the following:

- Active treatment for solid tumor and hematologic malignancies
- Receipt of solid-organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy
- Receipt of CAR-T-Cell or hematopoietic stem cell transplant
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatments with high-dose corticosteroids, alkylating agents, antimetabolites, transplant related immunosuppressive drugs, cancer chemotherapeutic agents classified as severely immunosuppressive, TNF blockers and other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) emphasized that this applies only to those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised and does not apply to pregnant individuals, all residents of Long Term Care Facilities, or those with chronic medical conditions unless they are also deemed to be moderately or severely immunocompromised.

Documentation of qualifying conditions is not a requirement. The vaccine recipient may self-attest and will be required to sign an attestation document. Vaccine recipients are also asked to bring their CDC vaccination card documenting their original vaccine series.



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COVID-19 vaccines are available at the Shawnee County Health Department (SCHD) via walk-in appointments during the following afternoon business hours at the SCHD – Immunization Clinic; 2115 SW 10th Ave:

1:00 – 4:00pm: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
2:00 – 4:00pm: Wednesday

The SCHD continues to strongly encourage residents to protect themselves by getting a COVID-19 vaccine. Many opportunities continue to exist in the community and can be found on SCHD's Vaccine [webpage](#) or through the CDC's Vaccine [tool](#). In addition, organizations and groups can request a SCHD-sponsored COVID-19 vaccine clinic by completing this [survey](#). Questions regarding COVID-19 vaccine can be sent to CovidVaccine@snco.us.

Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian and everyone entering the building over the age of 2 is required to wear a mask. If accommodations are needed due to a medical condition please call 785.251.5700.

As a reminder, human coronaviruses like the one that causes COVID-19 are most commonly spread through coughing and sneezing, personal contact like shaking hands, and touching a surface with the virus and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth. There are simple steps everyone can take to help prevent spreading them:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Wear a mask that covers both mouth and nose.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Avoid crowded areas.

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Shawnee County Health Department is committed to working in partnership with our community to promote and protect the optimal health of all people by bridging gaps to eliminate health inequities, respecting the diversity of our community, through adaptive and innovative processes.

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