



This message is posted in English, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese at: <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx>

Sept. 29, 2021

To: ODDS Partners and Providers (Please share this message with individuals with I/DD and their families)
From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services
Subject: Booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently approved a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine for specific populations who completed their second dose of Pfizer at least six months ago.

Booster shots are available for the following groups of people who completed their second shot at least six months ago:

- 65 years and older
- 18 and older who have [underlying medical conditions](#) (Oregon considers all intellectual or developmental disabilities underlying medical conditions,)
- 18 and older who work in [high-risk settings](#)
- 18 and older who live in [high-risk settings](#)

In Oregon, the booster doses are currently available for all populations in the [Phase 1a plan](#) who received the Pfizer series at least six months ago. For ODDS, this includes **people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, workers in group homes for children or adults with (I/DD) and I/DD foster homes, and workers providing paid or unpaid in-home services. Parents, including foster parents, and other caregivers of medically fragile children or adults who live at home are also eligible.**

Those who received Moderna or Johnson and Johnson should wait until a booster dose is approved for those vaccines, which is expected soon.

Medical evidence shows that all three COVID-19 vaccines are safe and highly effective at preventing severe COVID-19 illness and death. The recommended Pfizer booster maintains the Pfizer vaccine's long-term effectiveness, especially for older adults and people with underlying health conditions.

If you haven't received a COVID-19 vaccination yet, [please get vaccinated](#). COVID-19 vaccinations are essential to protect people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, support staff and our communities. The two-dose series of Pfizer or Moderna and one-dose of Johnson & Johnson all qualify to meet the vaccine requirements for healthcare workers.

If you qualify for a booster dose of Pfizer, please reach out to your Services Coordinator or Personal Agent about scheduling an appointment at any [vaccination clinic near you](#). If you are not able to leave your house to get a vaccine, please let your Services Coordinator or Personal Agent know so they can coordinate a plan.

Here are resources from the Oregon Health Authority:

- [English website](#)
- [Spanish website](#)
- [Western States press release in English](#)
- [Western States press release in Spanish](#)
- [Model Immunization Protocols \(Standing Orders\)](#)
- [Pharmacy Protocol](#)
- [FAQ in English](#)
- [FAQ in Spanish](#)
- [Who is eligible for a booster social media card in English](#)
- [Who is eligible for a booster social media card in Spanish](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lilia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Lilia Teninty
Director

Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Previous ODDS Director's Messages are available at <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx>

Follow us on Facebook @oregonDHS.IDD or twitter @OregonODDS and [explore our website](#).

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the Oregon Office of Developmental Disabilities Services at 503-945-5811. We accept calls from all forms of relay service for people who are Deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or have a speech disability. For more information about relay service providers visit www.oregonrelay.com or www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/trs-providers.