

# COVID-19 VACCINES

The COVID-19 vaccine situation is rapidly evolving. Eligibility requirements, appointment scheduling, distribution site information, and overall guidelines vary by state and are changing at a rapid pace. Listed below, you'll find links to updated information detailing vaccination protocol near you.

## New Jersey

- [www.covid-19.nj.gov](http://www.covid-19.nj.gov) - For up to date information, resources, and guidance on questions about getting testing for COVID-19, contact tracing and, traveling to or from the State of New Jersey.
- [www.covid19nj.gov/vaccine](http://www.covid19nj.gov/vaccine) - For up-to-the-minute information on vaccine distribution.

## State of Pennsylvania

- [www.covidportal.health.pa.gov/s/Your-Turn](http://www.covidportal.health.pa.gov/s/Your-Turn) - For up-to-the-minute information on vaccine distribution.

## Additional Resources

- Conner Strong & Buckelew has compiled a database of COVID-19 resources available to Fund members: <https://www.connerstrong.com/insights/covid-19-resource-center/>
- For more details regarding a particular state not listed above, visit the official CDC site: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines)

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

### How much will I have to pay to get the vaccine?

Nothing! Your SHIF medical plan pays the cost of administering the vaccine with \$0 cost-share regardless of what provider you use.

### Is the vaccine safe?

The FDA has declared the vaccines as safe. Vaccines go through a rigorous testing protocol and approval process before they are distributed to the general population.

### Can I get COVID-19 from the vaccine?

No. None of the vaccines currently in development or in use in the United States contain the live virus. The vaccines are meant to teach our immune systems to fight the virus that causes COVID-19. It takes about two weeks to build immunity after vaccination, so it's possible to still become infected during this time.

### Are there any side effects?

Some individuals may experience mild side effects like soreness at the injection site, fever, fatigue, or headache, similar to those associated with the flu shot. These side effects should go away within several days. If you have experienced an allergic reaction to a vaccine previously, check with your physician for guidance on how to proceed.

### Do I still need to get the vaccine if I've already had COVID-19 and recovered?

Yes. At this time, we're not sure how long someone is immune from re-infection after recovering from COVID-19. Natural immunity may not last very long, so health experts are suggesting individuals still opt for the vaccine. About 60-70 percent of the population will need to develop immunity in order to achieve community protection.