

### **1. For whom is the vaccine recommended?**

The Pfizer vaccine is approved for persons 16 years of age and older. The Moderna and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccines are approved for 18 years of age and older.

### **2. As a NOCROP employee, when will I be able to receive a COVID-19 vaccine?**

As an education employee, you are in Phase 1B and currently eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

### **3. How much does it cost to obtain a COVID-19 vaccine?**

It is free. The federal government is providing the vaccine free of charge to all people living in the United States.

### **4. Do I need a medical provider order to receive a COVID-19 vaccine? How do I sign up for an appointment to receive a COVID-19 vaccine?**

No, a medical provider order is not necessary. To sign up to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, register on the Othena website or app: [Click here](#). Walgreens, Rite Aid, or CVS Pharmacy may also be contacted directly for vaccine appointments.

### **5. What do I do if there are no appointments available?**

Because vaccine doses are limited, you may need to check regularly for updates on the Othena app after you've registered. New appointments will be posted every Friday afternoon, though that is subject to change.

### **6. I registered on Othena weeks ago and have been waiting for my turn to get an appointment. Why didn't I get priority if I was in the waiting room?**

If you registered in Othena before the OC School POD announcement, you are in the queue for the large super POD sites.

The OC School PODs represent a separate line. These are private PODs on a first-come, first-serve basis after you enter the unique identification code for school employees. Appointments are limited based on available supplies.

### **7. Can I bring a family member or friend who is eligible for a vaccination?**

OC School PODs are only open to TK-12 educators who live or work in Orange County. Anyone outside of education, including spouses or family members, will not be vaccinated at OC School PODs if they are not an educator.

**8. I previously registered with Othena and am having trouble entering the identification code for the education sector. It won't let me click "Update."**

Othena's tech support advises users to update the code on the website instead of the mobile app.

Other users reporting this issue have resolved it by typing the code one character at a time rather than copying and pasting. If you are copying and pasting, be sure to select only the first and last characters so that there are no extra spaces included in the field.

**9. The Othena app says that I'm not in Phase 1B. What do I do?**

You may need to try registering with a new email address and repeat the registration process.

**10. What if I don't see my insurance provider while registering through Othena?**

If you don't see your insurance provider, mark "no insurance" and continue. It is not a required field.

**11. How can I get a copy of my paycheck stub?**

If you're a public school employee, you can access and download your current paycheck stub by logging onto the [Employee Information System \(EIS\)](#). If you don't use this site often and need help navigating, use this [EIS Quick Start Guide](#).

**12. I'm a substitute teacher. Can I get vaccinated?**

Substitute teachers must have a current assignment and a letter from their superintendent that they are currently working. Long-term substitute teachers should have a recent pay stub that shows they are a long-term substitute and will not require a letter from the superintendent.

**13. Are school board members of a district or charter school eligible to receive their vaccinations through the OC School PODs?**

Yes. They will also need a note from the district or school leader on official letterhead confirming their status as board members.

**14. I have an appointment to get vaccinated through another provider. Do I need to cancel?**

School employees may receive their vaccinations through any available health care provider, including CVS, Walgreens, Rite Aid, and their private physicians. If you secure an appointment through another provider and also have an appointment in Othena, please cancel to open that slot for someone else.

**15. I just had a flu shot (or other types of vaccines, such as shingles, etc). Can I get a vaccination for COVID-19?**

You have to wait 14 days from the date of your vaccination.

**16. If I've had COVID-19 in the past, can I still get a COVID-19 vaccination?**

Yes.

**17. How can I choose which vaccine I get?**

Vaccines administered at OC School PODs are based on supply and availability, and the current system does not allow users to select a specific vaccine brand. If you'd like a certain brand of vaccine, please contact your health provider.

**18. I have allergies, and I am concerned about having an allergic reaction to the vaccine. Is there an epi-pen on-site in case I have an issue?**

Yes.

**19. What are the most common side effects after getting a COVID-19 vaccination?**

According to the CDC, after getting vaccinated, you might have some side effects, which are normal signs that your body is building protection. Common side effects are pain, redness, and swelling in the arm where you received the shot, as well as tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever, and nausea throughout the rest of the body. These side effects could affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days.

**20. If I received my first dose at a specific site, where do I receive my second dose?**

Those who received their first doses of the Moderna vaccine will return to those campuses for their second doses based on their previously scheduled appointment times.

No additional first doses of Moderna will be offered at any education-specific PODs. Instead, first-time patients who register through the Othena system will find appointments at other education-specific PODs for their single shots of the new Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

**21. If I am fully vaccinated, is it now safe to gather with others?**

Refer to the CTC guidance on recommendations for fully vaccinated people: [Click here](#).

**22. If I am fully vaccinated, do I have to continue wearing a face covering at work?**

Yes, all NOCROP employees, regardless if they are fully vaccinated or not, are expected to continue following all COVID-19 safety measures, including wearing a face covering, maintaining social distance, and completing health screenings.

**23. Is NOCROP keeping track of employees who have received a COVID-19 vaccination?**

No, NOCROP is not connected with Othena and is not privy to medical records for those who have received a vaccine.

***For additional information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, please visit the following resources:***

- CDC Frequently Asked Questions about Vaccination: [Click here](#)
- CDC COVID-19 General Webpage: [Click here](#)
- CVS Pharmacy COVID-19 Vaccine Information: [Click here](#)
- Walgreens Pharmacy COVID-19 Vaccine Information: [Click here](#)
- Rite Aid Pharmacy COVID-19 Vaccine Information: [Click here](#)