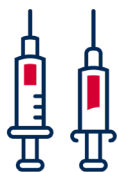


# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: COVID-19 Booster Shots



## What Is a **Booster Shot**, And How Does It Work?

Booster shots serve as a reminder to your immune system, ultimately providing reinforcements for your body to recognize and ward off COVID-19 as the initial effectiveness of each of the three approved vaccines wane over time.

It is important to know that the effectiveness of the Moderna, Pfizer and J&J vaccines against severe infection remain incredibly high, but receiving a booster shot will help your immune system prevent mild to moderate infection, ultimately making you and your family safer.

## Which Vaccines Have Booster Approvals?

All three Food and Drug Administration-authorized COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson) are approved for booster shots.



## Who Is Eligible for a Booster Shot?

The following groups are eligible to receive a booster shot if their primary vaccine was Pfizer or Moderna:

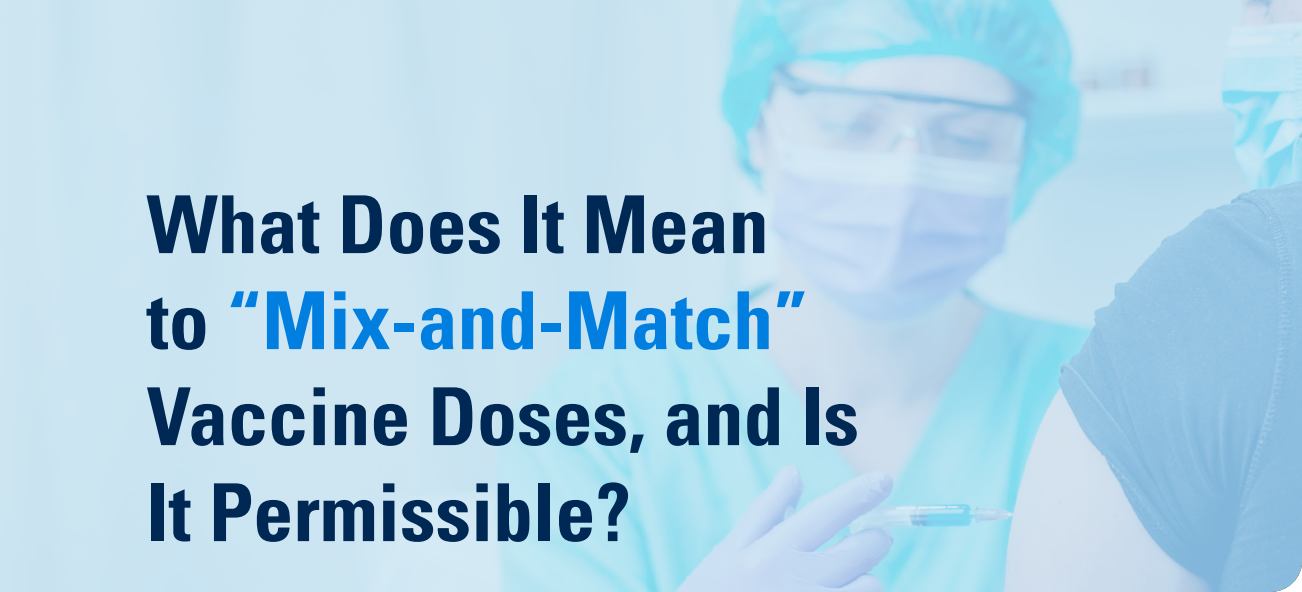
- Individuals 65 years and older;
- Individuals 18 years and older who have underlying medical conditions or live in long-term care settings;
- Individuals 18 years and older who work or live in high-risk settings; or

If your primary vaccine was Johnson & Johnson, then everyone 18 years of age or older is eligible to receive a booster shot.

## When Can You Get Your Booster?

When you can receive your booster shot depends on which COVID-19 vaccine you initially received.

- Pfizer and Moderna: at least six months after an individual's primary series of shots
- Johnson & Johnson: at least two months after an individual's initial dose



# What Does It Mean to “**Mix-and-Match**” Vaccine Doses, and Is It Permissible?

Mixing-and-matching is when an individual receives a booster that is different from the initial COVID-19 vaccine they received. For example, someone who was initially vaccinated with Pfizer may receive a booster dose of either Moderna or Johnson & Johnson. This may occur as a matter of preference or because of your physician’s advice. It is permissible to receive a booster that is different from the initial COVID-19 vaccine an individual received, and individuals should follow timelines specific to their initial doses (at least six months after receiving Pfizer or Moderna and at least two months after receiving Johnson & Johnson).

## Are the Booster Doses **Different** From the Initial Vaccine Series?

Booster doses for the Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are the same as the initial vaccination series. Please note that while Pfizer required a two-shot series for initial vaccination, the booster is only one shot. The Johnson & Johnson initial series consisted of one shot and the booster consists of one shot.

The Moderna booster is half the dose of the original shot. Note that Moderna required a two-shot series for initial vaccination, and the booster is comprised of one half-dose shot.

## Should **You** Get a Booster?

If you are eligible, you should consider getting a booster to increase your immunity. If you have questions, you should speak to your physician for more information.