

# COVID-19 VACCINES



You can help to protect yourself and your community by getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

Vaccines are one of the tools we can use to stop the spread of COVID-19, in addition to wearing a mask, staying six feet apart from others, and washing our hands. **Vaccines will help bring this pandemic to an end** and get us back to the activities we miss.

**COVID-19 vaccines are available free of charge to everyone 12 and older.** Get yours as soon as you can.



## COVID-19 VACCINES ARE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE

Though the COVID-19 vaccines were created quickly, no safety steps were skipped. Millions of people have safely received these vaccines in the US. The vaccines boost protection against COVID-19 and are especially good at preventing serious illness.

Vaccines **CANNOT** give you COVID-19 or change your DNA in any way.



## **YOU MAY HAVE SIDE EFFECTS AFTER GETTING A SHOT, BUT THESE ARE NORMAL.**

You may have chills, tiredness, and aches as well as pain and redness on your arm. These are normal signs that your body is building protection and should go away in a few days.

Most COVID-19 vaccines require two doses to work. If you are told you need a second shot, **MAKE SURE** you get it.

**It takes two weeks after your final shot for your body to build protection.**



## **EVEN AFTER YOUR VACCINE, YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE SAFETY STEPS.**

Until enough of us are vaccinated, wear your mask, stay 6 feet from others, and avoid crowds. That said, once you're fully vaccinated, you can start doing some of the things you enjoyed before the pandemic. Visit [scdhec.gov/vaxfacts](https://scdhec.gov/vaxfacts) to learn more.