

# Medicaid, CHIP and BHP COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Coverage, Cost-Sharing, and Reimbursement

## Current Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Basic Health Program (BHP) Requirements for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

This table summarizes current Medicaid, CHIP, and BHP coverage, cost-sharing, and federal reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccine administration.<sup>1</sup>

Population	Is coverage of COVID-19 vaccine administration mandatory?	Is coverage of the administration of additional doses for the immunocompromised and booster shots mandatory?	Is cost-sharing for COVID-19 vaccine administration allowed?	What percentage of state payments for COVID-19 vaccine administration are matched by the federal government?
Medicaid Full Coverage/Full Benefit Enrollees (Adults and Children)	✓	✓	✗	100%
Medicaid Limited Benefit Group Enrollees <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	✗	100%
Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Enrollees	✓	✓	✗	100%
Basic Health Program (BHP) Enrollees <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	✗	There is no specific federal funding for vaccine administration because BHP funding is based on a fixed payment formula.

<sup>1</sup> The Medicaid and CHIP coverage and cost-sharing requirements summarized in this chart generally apply beginning on the date of enactment of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (March 11, 2021) and ending on the last day of the first calendar quarter that begins one year after the last day of the COVID-19 emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (Act). The period of 100% federal matching funds for Medicaid and CHIP state expenditures on COVID-19 vaccines and their administration begins April 1, 2021 and ends on the last day of the first quarter that begins one year after the last day of the COVID-19 emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the Act. The table is meant to be a general reference tool, and states should contact CMS for technical assistance to discuss their program.

<sup>2</sup> With certain limited exceptions.

<sup>3</sup> The ARP COVID-19 provisions at issue here do not apply to BHP, but coverage is mandatory.

## What’s New with the Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine?

Children aged 5 and older are now authorized to receive age-appropriate doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. The Moderna and Janssen COVID-19 vaccines remain authorized for those 18 and older. All three COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. More information on COVID-19 vaccine eligibility for children and teens is available [here](#).

- On October 29, 2021, **US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended the emergency use authorization (EUA)** for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11. On November 2, 2021, **the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended** the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for this population.
- Distribution of COVID-19 vaccines for those under age 19 currently occurs through the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program, just as it does for adults. To provide vaccines to this age group, **a provider must be enrolled in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program**. More information regarding the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Requirements is available [here](#).
- Because COVID-19 vaccine distribution is outside of the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program at this time, **a provider does not need to be enrolled in the VFC program** to administer a COVID-19 vaccine to a child eligible for the VFC program.
- COVID-19 vaccinations are currently **covered with no out-of-pocket costs** for CHIP, BHP, and nearly all Medicaid beneficiaries.
- **The COVID-19 vaccine can be co-administered with other vaccines, including the flu vaccine.**
- States should refer to the **Coverage and Reimbursement of COVID-19 Vaccines, Vaccine Administration, and Cost-Sharing under Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and Basic Health Program toolkit** for more information.

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## For Whom Are COVID-19 Vaccines Authorized or Approved?

Three COVID-19 vaccines are available for use in the United States (initial doses):

- Pfizer-BioNTech for those aged 5 and over
- Moderna for those aged 18 and over
- Janssen (Johnson&Johnson) for those aged 18 and over

## For Whom are Booster Shots Authorized?

For individuals who received a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, a booster shot is authorized for the following groups at 6 months or more after their initial series:

- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ who live in [long-term care settings](#)
- Age 18+ who have [underlying medical conditions](#)
- Age 18+ who work or live in [high-risk settings](#)

For individuals who received the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine, booster shots are also recommended for those who are 18 and older and who were vaccinated two or more months ago.

Individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. CDC's recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.

## For Whom Is an Additional Dose Authorized?

CDC recommends that people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after a second dose of [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine](#) or [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine](#).

## Where Can I find More Information?

[ACIP Recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

[FDA COVID -19 Vaccine Information](#)

[CDC Fact Sheet: VFC vs. CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#)

[Medicaid Vaccine Toolkit](#)

[CDC Information on Vaccine Safety](#)