



Supervisor Tony Buffington  
**Blue Ridge District**  
*NewsFlash*



**Loudoun Expands COVID Vaccinations,  
Use of Johnson & Johnson Vaccine Still  
on Hold**

Sent: April 20, 2021

# COVID-19 Vaccinations Expanded to Phase 2

INCLUDES ALL RESIDENTS  
AGE 16+



[loudoun.gov/COVID19vaccine](https://loudoun.gov/COVID19vaccine)

Since Monday, April 12, 2021, the Loudoun County Health Department has expanded its COVID-19 vaccination program to include all Loudoun County residents who are 16 years of age and older. Residents are encouraged to pre-register for a COVID-19 vaccine if they have not already done so. Residents under 18 receiving the vaccine must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at their vaccination appointment or they will be turned away.

“As we begin making appointments for people in the general population, we will continue to prioritize vaccination for anyone in groups who are at greater risk of exposure and illness and for spreading the virus” said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend.

Stay up to date on the county's vaccination efforts at [loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine](https://loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine)

## **How to Pre-Register**

Anyone 16 years of age and older who lives or works in Virginia can pre-register for a COVID-19 vaccine in one of two ways:

- **Online:** Visit [vaccinate.virginia.gov](https://vaccinate.virginia.gov) to submit a pre-registration form. The fastest method for receiving a vaccination appointment is to include a unique email address in separate pre-registration forms for each individual who will receive a vaccine.
- **Phone:** Individuals who do not have access to the internet can pre-register by calling 1-877-829-4682

### **Other Vaccination Opportunities**

In addition to receiving a vaccine from Loudoun County, people can also look for available vaccination appointments at pharmacies and other locations in the region by visiting [vaccinefinder.org](https://vaccinefinder.org). These entities do not coordinate their registrations with the Health Department.

### **Already Pre-Registered, But Have Not Heard from the County?**

The Health Department encourages anyone who has already pre-registered for a vaccine and is in the [Phase 1a, 1b or 1c priority groups](#), but has not yet been contacted by the county for a vaccination appointment, to take two actions:

- **First:** check your spam or junk email folder for an email from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), which is used to pre-register, to ensure the invitation for an appointment was not sent there.
- **Second:** if you have not received an email, contact the county by calling 703-737-8300, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

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## **Loudoun Pauses Use of Johnson & Johnson Vaccine**

The Loudoun County Health Department has paused use of the single-dose Johnson and Johnson (J&J) vaccine in accordance with the Virginia Department of Health's [announcement](#).

Loudoun County will continue its ongoing vaccination efforts using available supplies of Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

### **Federal Government Statements on J&J Vaccine**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [recommended a pause](#) in the use of the J&J vaccine out of an abundance of caution while an [Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices](#) further investigates a possible side effect of the J&J COVID-19 vaccine.

According to the CDC, as of April 12, more than 6.8 million doses of the J&J vaccine had been administered in the United States. The CDC and the FDA are reviewing data involving six reported U.S. cases of a rare and severe type of blood clot called cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST) in individuals after receiving the J&J vaccine. All six cases occurred among women between the ages of 18 and 48, and symptoms occurred 6 to 13 days after vaccination.

- [Read more in the joint CDC/FDA Statement](#)
- [Listen to the Joint CDC/FDA News Conference](#)

### **Already Received a J&J Vaccine?**

The CDC and FDA have emphasized that the possible side effect from the J&J vaccine is extremely rare. People who have already received the J&J vaccine who develop severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain or shortness of breath within three weeks after vaccination should contact their health care provider. Health care providers are asked to report adverse events to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System](#).

Anyone who has already received the J&J vaccine does not need to receive another type of vaccine. The vaccine will provide protection against COVID-19. The CDC expects to release updated guidance on the J&J vaccine as soon as possible.

### **Stay Vigilant in Slowing the Spread of COVID-19**

The CDC has published guidance for [fully vaccinated people](#); however, the CDC also recommends that even people who are fully vaccinated keep taking precautions in public places. The Loudoun

County Health Department encourages Loudoun residents who received a COVID-19 vaccine to continue taking the steps that help prevent the spread of COVID-19, including:

- Avoid crowds of people.
- Stay 6 feet away from others who do not live in your household.
- Wear a face covering when in public.
- Wash hands frequently.
- Avoid non-essential travel, particularly carpooling with people who do not live in your household.
- Avoid visiting unvaccinated people who are at [increased risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19](#).

Learn more about [how to protect yourself and others on the CDC's website](#).

### **COVID-19 Testing**

Loudoun County continues to offer free COVID-19 testing weekly. More information about COVID-19 testing opportunities is posted online at [loudoun.gov/covid19testing](https://loudoun.gov/covid19testing)

### **Stay Informed**

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19:

- Sign up for email and text updates about Loudoun's response to COVID-19 at [loudoun.gov/coronavirus](https://loudoun.gov/coronavirus)
- Opt-in to receive text message updates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic:
  - Text LCCOVID19 to 888777
- Follow the Loudoun County Government [Facebook page](#) and [@LoudounCoGovt](#) on Twitter.

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***Coronavirus - We're in it together, we'll get through it together - Tony***

Be safe!



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