Respiratory Season 2025-2026: Influenza and Covid Immunizations for Infants and Children

Maine Immunization Program

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2025-2026 Influenza Vaccine Recommendations

Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every season.

Influenza Dose and Age Recommendation

- **Age 6 months–8 years** who have received fewer than 2 influenza vaccine dose, or whose influenza vaccination history is unknown:
  - Administer 2 doses, separated by at least 4 weeks.
- **Age 6 months–8 years** who have received at least 2 influenza vaccine doses:
  - Administer 1 dose.
- **Age 9 years or older**
  - Administer 1 dose.

2025–2026 seasonal influenza vaccines are single dose formulations that are free of thimerosal for children, pregnant women and adults.

Available influenza vaccines are trivalent vaccines that are formulated to protect against three influenza viruses (an A(H1N1) virus, an A(H3N2) virus, and a B/Victoria virus).

Timing for Influenza Vaccination

Vaccination against influenza is particularly important for people who are at higher risk of serious complications from influenza. Flu viruses typically spread in fall and winter, with activity peaking between December and February. Getting vaccinated in the fall can lower an individual's chances of getting the flu (influenza).

Timing Considerations for 2025 – 2026 Influenza Vaccination:

- For most groups, vaccination should be offered during September or October.
- Vaccination should continue throughout the season and is recommended for those not yet vaccinated with a 2025–2026 influenza vaccine.

Flu Vaccines Offered Through the VFC Program for the 2025-2026 Influenza Season

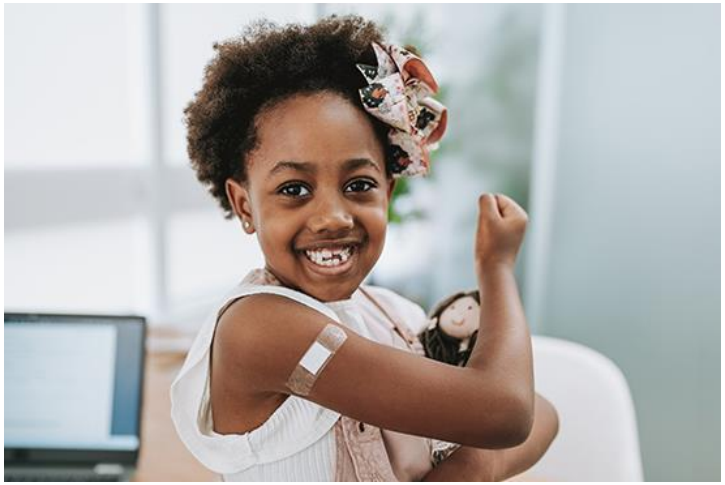
- All 2025-2026 seasonal influenza vaccines are trivalent vaccines.
- All 2025-2026 seasonal influenza offered by VFC are thimerosal free.
- Having an egg allergy does not indicate additional safety measures for flu vaccination beyond those recommended for any recipient of any vaccine, regardless of severity of previous reaction to egg.

Trade Name	Age Range	How it is supplied
FluLaval IIV*	6 months to 18 years	0.5mL single dose prefilled syringe
Fluzone IIV*	6 months to 18 years	0.5ml single dose prefilled syringe
Flucelvax ccIIV*	6 months to 18 years	0.5mL single dose prefilled syringe
FluMist LAIV3*	2 years to 18 years	0.2mL single dose prefilled intranasal sprayer

- *IIV = egg-based inactivated influenza vaccine.
- *ccIIV = cell culture inactivated influenza vaccine
- *LAIV3= live attenuated influenza vaccine

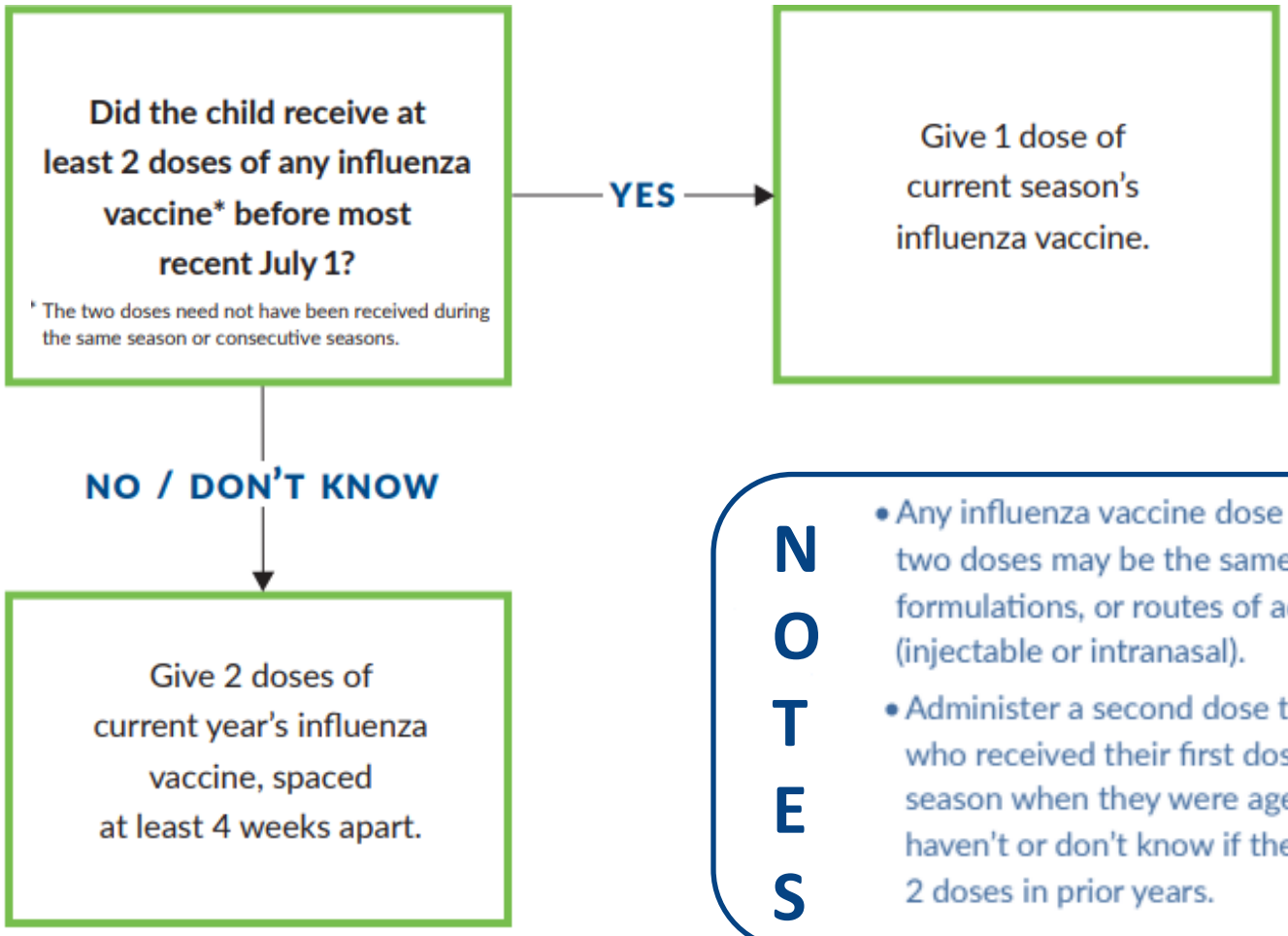
Coadministration with Influenza Vaccine

Inactivated influenza vaccine
You can give inactivated influenza vaccine at the same time as other vaccines. If other vaccines are indicated, they can be administered during the same clinical encounter as inactivated influenza vaccine. When giving several injections at a single visit, administer each vaccine at a separate injection site. The injection sites should be separated by 1 inch or more, if possible, so that any local reactions can be differentiated.



Live attenuated influenza vaccine (Flu-Mist)
Live, attenuated influenza vaccine may be administered simultaneously with other live or inactivated vaccines. However, if two live, attenuated vaccines (injectable or intranasal) are not given during the same clinical visit, they need to be separated by at least 4 weeks (28 days) to minimize the potential risk for interference. For example, if live, attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) was given, at least 4 weeks should pass before MMR is administered.

Guide for Determining the Number of Doses of Influenza Vaccine to Give to Children Age 6 Months Through 8 Years



IM Injection Influenza Vaccine and NAS Flu Mist Administration Recommendations

How to Administer Intramuscular and Intranasal Influenza Vaccines

Intramuscular injection (IM)

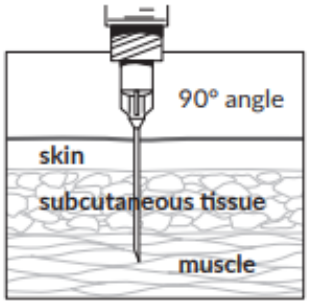
All injectable influenza vaccines

1 Use a needle long enough to reach deep into the muscle. Infants age 6 through 11 mos: 1"; 1 through 10 yrs: 1–1¼"; and children and adults 11 years and older: 1–1½".

2 Identify your landmark for the injection: anterolateral thigh muscle for children 6 months through 2 years, deltoid muscle (or anterolateral thigh as an alternative) for people 3 years and older. For more information and illustrations on where to give IM injections, see www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2020.pdf.

3 With your non-dominant hand, bunch up the muscle.

4 With your dominant hand, insert the needle at a 90° angle to the skin with a quick thrust.



5 Push down on the plunger and inject the entire contents of the syringe. There is no need to aspirate.

6 Remove the needle and then apply pressure to the injection site with a dry cotton ball or gauze. Hold in place for several seconds.

7 If there is any bleeding, cover the injection site with a bandage.

8 Put the used needle and syringe in a sharps container.

Intranasal administration (NAS)*

Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)

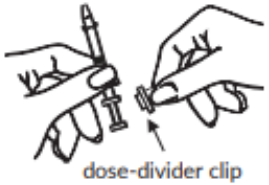
1 FluMist (LAIV) is for intranasal administration only. Do not inject FluMist.

2 Remove rubber tip protector. Do not remove dose-divider clip at the other end of the sprayer.

3 With the recipient in an upright position, place the tip just inside the nostril to ensure LAIV is delivered into the nose. The patient should breathe normally.

4 With a single motion, depress plunger as rapidly as possible until the dose-divider clip prevents you from going further.

5 Pinch and remove the dose-divider clip from the plunger.



6 Place the tip just inside the other nostril, and with a single motion, depress plunger as rapidly as possible to deliver the remaining vaccine.

7 Dispose of the applicator in a sharps container.

*These instructions describe delivery of LAIV in a clinical setting. People who order LAIV for home use should read and follow the manufacturer's instuctions for preparation and administration of LAIV.

Covid 19 Vaccines 2024-2025 Update

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) removed the EUA for 2024-2025 Covid 19 vaccines and are no longer authorized for use.

- Return unopened vials using the "Manage Returns" module in Immpact.

COVID-19 vaccine products that are no longer authorized for use under EUA are:

- **2024-2025 Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine:**
  - 6 months through 4 years (multiple dose vials with yellow caps and labels with yellow borders).
  - 5 years through 11 years (single dose vials with blue caps and labels with blue borders).
- **2024-2025 Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine:**
  - 6 months through 11 years (manufacturer-filled syringe (MFS), 0.25mL).
- **2024-2025 Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine:**
  - 12 years of age and older (manufacturer-filled syringe, 0.5mL).

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates 2025-2026

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved updated 2025-26 COVID-19 vaccines for individuals 6 months through 18 years of age with certain underlying conditions.
- Other Medical associations continue to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for most people. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends COVID-19 vaccine for all children 6 through 23 months, and for children 2 to 18 years based on risk factors (and provides a separate list of high-risk conditions on next slide).

Vaccination remains a vital tool to prevent COVID-19 severe illness, hospitalization, and death. All eligible individuals should continue to receive routine COVID-19 vaccination as follows:

- All young children ages 6–23 months should get vaccinated against COVID-19.
- All children ages 2–18 years should get vaccinated with a single dose of age-appropriate 2025– 2026 COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of vaccination status, if they:
  - ❑ are at high risk of severe COVID-19,
  - ❑ are residents of long-term care facilities or other congregate settings,
  - ❑ have never been vaccinated, or
  - ❑ have household contacts at high risk for severe COVID-19.
- Children not in one of the groups above, whose parent or guardian desires their protection from COVID-19, also should be offered a single dose of the updated vaccine.

❖ *The 2025-2026 Covid vaccine is not yet available for ordering through the VFC program. Maine CDC will provide updated information to providers as we continue to adapt to the evolving landscape of vaccine access in the United States.*

List of High Risk Underlying Medical Conditions for Pediatric Patients

The underlying medical conditions or risk factors listed below place an individual at high risk of severe COVID-19.

- Asthma
- Cancer
- Cerebrovascular Disease
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Chronic Liver Disease
- Chronic Lung Disease
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Dementia or other neurological conditions
- Diabetes (Type 1 or Type 2)
- Disabilities
- Heart Conditions
- Hemoglobin Blood Disorders
- HIV Infection
- Immunocompromised Condition or Weaken Immune System
  - People who have cancer and are on chemotherapy
  - People who have had a solid organ transplant and are taking medication to keep their transplant
  - People who use some medicines for a long time, like corticosteroids
  - Primary immunodeficiency
- Mental Health Conditions
- Overweight and Obesity
- Physical Inactivity
- Pregnancy
- Smoking – Current or Former
- Solid Organ or Blood Stem Cell Transplant
- Substance Use Disorders
- Tuberculosis (TB)

For more information on this list visit:
https://www.cdc.gov/covid/hcp/clinical-care/underlying-conditions.html

2025-2026 COVID-19 Vaccine Package Inserts and Approval Letter:

•Spikevax (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA; Moderna): age 6 months through 64 years with an underlying condition and all adults age 65 years and older

•Comirnaty (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA; Pfizer/BioNTech): age 5 through 64 years with an underlying condition and all adults age 65 years and older

•Nuvaxovid (COVID-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted; Novavax): age 12 through 64 years with an underlying condition and all adults age 65 years and older

2025-2026 COVID-19 Vaccine Product Dosing

Administer any recommended, age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine using the vaccine product and dosing chart below, and according to the individual's health risk.

2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine products and dosing based on age:

Age	Covid-19 Vaccine Product	Dosage
6 months through 4 years	Moderna (Spikevax)	0.25 mL/25 ug
5 years through 11 years	Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty)	0.3mL/10ug
	Moderna (Spikevax)	0.25mL/25ug
12 years and older	Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty)	0.3mL/30ug
	Moderna (Spikevax)	0.5mL/50ug
	Novavax (Nuvaxvoid)	0.5mL/5ug rS and 50ug of Matrix-M adjuvant

Ages 6 Months Through 23 Months

(not moderately or severely immunocompromised)

Covid-19 History* before 2025-2026 Vaccine	Number of 2025-2026 Covid-19 doses indicated	Recommended 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine† and interval between doses
Unvaccinated	2	Dose 1 (Moderna): Day 0 Dose 2 (Moderna): 4–8 weeks after Dose 1 ‡
1 dose Moderna	1	1 Dose (Moderna): At least 4-8 weeks after last dose‡
1 dose Pfizer-BioNTech	2	Dose 1 (Moderna): At least 4-8 weeks after last dose‡ Dose 2 (Moderna): At least 8 weeks after Dose 1 ‡
2 or more doses Pfizer-BioNTech	1	1 Dose (Moderna): At least 8 weeks after last dose
2 or more doses Moderna OR 3 or more doses Pfizer-BioNTech	1	1 Dose (Moderna): At least 8 weeks after last dose

**COVID-19 vaccination history refers to all doses of COVID-19 vaccine from any manufacturer received before the availability of the 2025– 2026 COVID-19 vaccines and includes original, bivalent, 2023–2024, and 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines.*

†Dosage for Moderna: 0.25 mL/25 µg.

‡An 8-week interval between the first and second mRNA COVID-19 vaccine doses might be optimal for some people as it might reduce the rare risk of myocarditis and pericarditis associated with these vaccines.

Ages 2 Years Through 4 Years

(not moderately or severely immunocompromised)

COVID-19 vaccination history before 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine†	Number of 2025–2026 COVID-19 doses indicated	Recommended 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine‡ and interval between doses
Unvaccinated	1	1 dose (Moderna)
1 or more doses mRNA (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech) vaccine	1	1 dose (Moderna): At least 8 weeks after last dose

Ages 5 Years Through 11 Years

(not moderately or severely immunocompromised)

COVID-19 vaccination history before 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine†	Number of 2025–2026 COVID-19 doses indicated	Recommended 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine‡ and interval between doses
Unvaccinated	1	1 dose (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech)
1 or more doses mRNA (Moderna or Pfizer Bio-Tech)	1	1 Dose (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 8 weeks after last dose

†COVID-19 vaccination history refers to all doses of COVID-19 vaccine from any manufacturer received before the availability of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccines and includes original, bivalent, 2023–2024, and 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines.
‡Dosage for Moderna: 0.25 mL/25 µg; dosage for Pfizer-BioNTech: 0.3 mL/10 µg.

Ages 12 Years Through 18 Years

(not moderately or severely immunocompromised)

COVID-19 vaccination history before 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine*†	Number of 2025–2026 COVID-19 doses indicated	Recommended 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine‡ and interval between doses
Unvaccinated	1	1 Dose of Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech
	OR	
	2	2 doses Novavax at 0 and 3 to 8 weeks
1 or more doses mRNA (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech) vaccine	1	Dose 1 (Moderna, Novavax or Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 8 weeks after last dose
1 dose Novavax	1	Dose 1 (Novavax): 3–8 weeks after last dose§¶
2 or more doses of Novavax	1	Dose 1 (Moderna, Novavax or Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 8 weeks after last dose

**COVID-19 vaccination history refers to all doses of COVID-19 vaccine from any manufacturer received before the availability of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccines and includes original, bivalent, 2023–2024, and 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines.*

†People ages 18-64 years who received 1 or more doses of Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine should receive 1 dose of any 2025–2026 COVID vaccine.

‡Dosage for Moderna: 0.5 mL/50µg; dosage for Novavax: 0.5 mL/5µg rS protein and 50µg Matrix-M adjuvant; dosage for Pfizer-BioNTech: 0.3 mL/30µg.

§An 8-week interval between the first and second COVID-19 vaccine (Moderna, Novavax, Pfizer-BioNTech) doses might be optimal for some people as it might reduce the rare risk of myocarditis and pericarditis associated with these vaccines.

¶ If more than 8 weeks have elapsed since receipt of the first dose of Novavax, any 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine (i.e., Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech) may be administered.

Ages 6 Months - 4 Years who are Immunocompromised

COVID-19 vaccination history before 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine*	Number of 2025–2026 COVID-19 doses indicated	Recommended 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine† and interval between doses
Unvaccinated	4 Additional doses Moderna may be administered under shared clinical decision making at least 2 months after dose‡	Dose 1 (Moderna): Day 0 Dose 2 (Moderna): 4 weeks after dose 1 Dose 3 (Moderna): at least 4 weeks after dose 2 Dose 4 (Moderna): 6 months (min 2-month interval) after dose 3
1 dose Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech	3 Additional doses (Moderna): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025–2026 Moderna dose‡	Dose 1 (Moderna): 4 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Moderna): At least 8 weeks after dose 1 Dose 3 (Moderna): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 2
2 doses Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech	2 Additional doses (Moderna): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025–2026 Moderna dose‡	Dose 1 (Moderna): At least 4 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Moderna): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after 2025–2026 Dose 1
3 or more doses Moderna or Pfizer	2 Additional doses (Moderna): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025–2026 Moderna dose‡	Dose 1 (Moderna): At least 8 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Moderna): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after dose 1

**COVID-19 vaccination history refers to all doses of COVID-19 vaccine from any manufacturer received before the availability of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccines, and includes original, bivalent, 2023-2024, and 2024–2025 COVID-19 vaccines.*
†Dosage for Moderna: 0.25 mL/25 µg; dosage for Pfizer-BioNTech: 0.3 mL/3 µg.
‡Additional doses may be administered, informed by the clinical judgment of a healthcare provider and personal preference and circumstances.

Ages 5 Years Through 11 Years * who are Immunocompromised

COVID-19 vaccination history before 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine†	Number of 2025– 2026 COVID-19 doses indicated	Recommended 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine‡ and interval between doses
Unvaccinated	4 Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025– 2026 Moderna dose§	Dose 1 (Moderna): Day 0
		Dose 2 (Moderna): 4 weeks after Dose 1
		Dose 3 (Moderna): At least 4 weeks after Dose 2
		2025–2026 Dose 4 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 3
	OR	
	4 Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025– 2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Pfizer-BioNTech): Day 0
		Dose 2 (Pfizer-BioNTech): 3 weeks after Dose 1
		Dose 3 (Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 4 weeks after Dose 2
		Dose 4 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 3
1 dose Moderna	3 Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical-decision making at least 2 months after last 2025– 2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Moderna): 4 weeks after last dose
		Dose 2 (Moderna): At least 4 weeks after Dose 1
		(Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 2
2 dose Moderna	2 Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025– 2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Moderna): At least 4 weeks after last dose
		Dose 2 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 1

Ages 5 Years Through 11 Years* who are Immunocompromised Cont.

COVID-19 vaccination history before 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine†	Number of 2025– 2026 COVID-19 doses indicated	Recommended 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine‡ and interval between doses
1 dose Pfizer-BioNTech	3 Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025–2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Pfizer-BioNTech): 3 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 4 weeks after Dose 1 Dose 3 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 2
2 doses Pfizer-BioNTech	2 Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025–2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 4 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 2
3 or more doses Moderna or Pfizer	2 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025–2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 8 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 1

**Children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years during the initial vaccination series should complete the 3-dose series using the dosage for children ages 5–11 years for all doses received on or after turning age 5 years:*

- *Moderna series: 2025–2026 Moderna, 0.25 mL/25µg; there is no dosage change*
- *Pfizer-BioNTech series: 2025–2026 Pfizer-BioNTech, 0.3 mL/10µg*

†COVID-19 vaccination history refers to all doses of COVID-19 vaccine from any manufacturer received before the availability of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccines and includes original, bivalent, 2023–2024, and 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines.

‡Dosage for Moderna: 0.25 mL/25µg; dosage for Pfizer-BioNTech: 0.3 mL/10µg.

§Additional doses may be administered, informed by the clinical judgment of a healthcare provider and personal preference and circumstances.

¶This COVID-19 vaccine history refers to previous receipt of 3 doses of mRNA vaccine from the same manufacturer (i.e., Moderna or Pfizer BioNTech) for initial vaccination followed by 1 or more additional doses of any mRNA vaccine.

Ages 12 Years and older* who are Immunocompromised

COVID-19 vaccination history before 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine†‡	Number of 2025–2026 COVID-19 doses indicated	Recommended 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine§ and interval between doses
Unvaccinated	4 Additional doses (Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last dose of any 2025–2026 vaccine	Dose 1 (Moderna): Day 0
		Dose 2 (Moderna): 4 weeks after Dose 1
		Dose 3 (Moderna): At least 4 weeks after Dose 2
		Dose 4 (Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 3
	OR	
	3 Additional doses (Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last dose of any 2025–2026 vaccine	Dose 1 (Novavax): Day 0
		Dose 2 (Novavax): 3 weeks after Dose 1
		Dose 3 (Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 2
	OR	
	4 Additional doses (Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last dose of any 2025–2026 vaccine	Dose 1 (Pfizer-BioNTech): Day 0
		Dose 2 (Pfizer-BioNTech): 3 weeks after Dose 1
		Dose 3 (Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 4 weeks after Dose 2
		Dose 4 (Moderna, Novavax or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 3

Ages 12 Years and older* who are Immunocompromised Cont.

COVID-19 vaccination history before 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine†‡	Number of 2025–2026 COVID-19 doses indicated	Recommended 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine§ and interval between doses
1 dose Moderna	**3** Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical-decision making at least 2 months after last 2025– 2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Moderna): 4 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Moderna): At least 4 weeks after Dose 1 Dose 3 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 2
2 doses Moderna	**2** Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025– 2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Moderna): At least 4 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 1
1 dose Pfizer-BioNTech	**3** Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025–2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Pfizer-BioNTech): 3 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 4 weeks after Dose 1 Dose 3 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 2
2 doses Pfizer-BioNTech	**2** Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025– 2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 4 weeks after last dose Dose 2 (Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 1

Ages 12 Years and older* who are Immunocompromised Cont.

1 dose Novavax	**2** Additional doses (Moderna, Novavax or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last dose of any 2025–2026 vaccine	Dose 1 (Novavax): At least 3 weeks after last dose
		Dose 2 (Moderna, Novavax or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 1
3 or more doses Moderna or Pfizer#	**2** Additional doses (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last 2025–2026 mRNA dose§	Dose 1 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 8 weeks after last dose
		Dose 2 (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 1
2 or more doses Novavax#	**2** Additional doses (Moderna, Novavax or Pfizer-BioNTech): May be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after last dose of any 2025–2026 vaccine	Dose 1 (Moderna, Novavax or Pfizer-BioNTech): At least 8 weeks after last dose
		Dose 2 (Moderna, Novavax or Pfizer-BioNTech): 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after Dose 1

** Children who transition from age 11 years to age 12 years during the initial vaccination series should complete the 3-dose series using the dosage for people ages 12 years and older for all doses received on or after turning age 12 years:*

- *Moderna series: 2025–2026 Moderna, 0.5 mL/50µg.*
- *Pfizer-BioNTech series: 2025–2026 Pfizer-BioNTech, 0.3 mL/30µg.*

† COVID-19 vaccination history refers to all doses of COVID-19 vaccine from any manufacturer received before the availability of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccines and includes original, bivalent, 2023–2024, and 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines.

‡ People ages 18 years and older who received 1 or more doses of Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine should receive 1 dose of any 2025–2026 COVID19 followed by a second dose of any 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine 6 months (minimum interval 2 months) after the first dose. Additional doses of any 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine may be administered under shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after the last dose of any 2025–2026 vaccine.

§ Dosage for Moderna: 0.5 mL/50µg; dosage for Novavax: 0.5 mL/5µg rS protein and 50µg Matrix-M adjuvant; dosage for Pfizer-BioNTech: 0.3 mL/30µg.

¶ Additional doses may be administered, informed by the clinical judgment of a healthcare provider and personal preference and circumstances.

 # This COVID-19 vaccine history refers to previous receipt of 3 doses of mRNA vaccine from the same manufacturer (i.e., Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech) for initial vaccination or 2 doses of Novavax for initial vaccination followed by 1 or more additional doses of any COVID-19 vaccine

2025- 2026 COVID-19 Preparation for Administration

2.1 Preparation for Administration

- Verify that the label on the pre-filled syringe states 2025-2026 Formula.
- If pre-filled syringes of SPIKEVAX are frozen, thaw before use following the instructions below.

	Thaw in Refrigerator 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F)	Thaw at Room Temperature 15°C to 25°C (59°F to 77°F)
Carton of 10 syringes	Thaw for 2 hours and 40 minutes	Thaw for 1 hour and 20 minutes
Carton of 2 syringes	Thaw for 1 hour and 40 minutes	Thaw for 40 minutes
One syringe (removed from carton)	Thaw for 1 hour and 40 minutes	Thaw for 40 minutes

- After thawing, do not refreeze.
- Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit.
- SPIKEVAX is a white to off-white suspension. It may contain white or translucent product-related particulates. Do not administer if vaccine is discolored or contains other particulate matter.
- **Do not shake.**
- With tip cap upright, remove tip cap by twisting counterclockwise until tip cap releases. Remove tip cap in a slow, steady motion. Avoid pulling tip cap while twisting.
- Attach the needle by twisting in a clockwise direction until the needle fits securely on the syringe.

Moderna (Spikevax)

2.1 Preparation for Administration

COMIRNATY Single−Dose Prefilled Syringes for Individuals 65 Years of Age and Older and Individuals 12 Years Through 64 Years of Age with at Least One Underlying Condition that Puts Them at High Risk for Severe Outcomes from COVID-19:

- Verify that the label on the prefilled syringe states 2025-2026 Formula.
- If prefilled syringe has been frozen, discard.
- Do not shake.
- Remove tip cap by slowly turning the cap counterclockwise while holding the Luer lock and attach a sterile needle. Use immediately. If COMIRNATY cannot be used immediately, it must be used within 4 hours.

COMIRNATY Single−Dose Vials for Individuals 5 Years Through 11 Years of Age with at Least One Underlying Condition that Puts Them at High Risk for Severe Outcomes from COVID-19:

- Verify that the label on the vial states 2025-2026 Formula.
- If vial is frozen, thaw vial in the refrigerator [2ºC to 8ºC (35ºF to 46ºF) for up to 2 hours] or at room temperature [up to 25ºC (77ºF) for 30 minutes] *[see How Supplied/Storage and Handling (16)]*.
- Prior to use, mix by inverting vial gently 10 times. Do not shake.
- Withdraw a single 0.3 mL dose using a sterile needle and syringe.
- Discard vial and any excess volume.

Pfizer (Comirnaty)

2.2 Preparation for Administration

- Verify that the label on the pre-filled syringe states 2025-2026 Formula.
- NUVAXOVID is a colorless to slightly yellow, clear to mildly opalescent suspension.
- Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit. Do not administer the vaccine if either of these conditions exist.

Novavax (Nuvaxovid)

Coadministration with COVID-19 Vaccine

Routine administration of all age-appropriate doses of vaccines simultaneously, also known as coadministration, is recommended for children, adolescents, and adults if there are no contraindications at the time of the healthcare visit.

COVID-19 vaccines may be coadministered with ALL other vaccines including:

- Non-live vaccines
- Live, attenuated vaccines

We will continue to share information as it becomes available.

Thank you for your patience through all the recent changes! We appreciate all that you do to help immunize the children of Maine!

Make sure you are signed up to receive our emails! Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns!

Program Updates & Announcements

To receive Maine Immunization Program updates, subscribe here. After entering your email, select **Add Subscriptions,** then choose **Immunization Communications** from the list of topics.

Program Updates & Announcements | Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention

Resources

Influenza Vaccine:

- 2025–2026 Flu Season | Influenza (Flu) | CDC
- Getting a Flu Vaccine and other Recommended Vaccines at the Same Time | Influenza (Flu) | CDC

COVID-19 Vaccine:

- COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations | Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention
- Underlying Conditions and the Higher Risk for Severe COVID-19 | COVID-19 | CDC
- Maine CDC Standing Orders
- AAP-Immunization-Schedule.pdf
    - CDC releases 2025 immunization schedules | AAP News | American Academy of Pediatrics

Questions?

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