

What's the Difference Between a **Booster Dose** and an **Additional Dose**?

Vaccines are the best protection against severe illness, hospitalization, and death due to COVID-19. Most people who are fully vaccinated are still very well protected.

Certain people are eligible for either a booster dose or an additional dose.

Booster Dose:

Given when the immune response to initial vaccination might have decreased over time

Who is eligible?

Individuals that have completed the **Pfizer two-dose vaccine series**.

The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are not yet approved as a booster dose. Recommendations may change in the future as more data becomes available.

People who **SHOULD** receive a booster dose:

- Age 65 or older
- Age 50–64 with underlying medical conditions
- Residents aged 18 and older in long-term care settings



People who **MAY** receive a booster dose:

- Age 18–49 with underlying medical conditions
- Age 18–64 at increased risk for Covid-19 due to work or institutional setting, such as:
 - First Responders (healthcare workers, firefighters, police, congregate care staff)
 - Education Staff (teachers, support staff, daycare workers)
 - Food/Agriculture
 - Postal Service
 - Public Transit
 - Corrections
 - Grocery store
 - Manufacturing

Needs vary depending on individual benefits and risks.

When can it be given?

6 months after receiving the two-dose series of Pfizer

Talk to your doctor to see if getting a booster dose is right for you.

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Additional Dose

Given to those with weakened immune systems who have not responded fully to initial doses

Who is eligible?

Individuals aged 12 and up who have completed the **Pfizer or Moderna two-dose vaccine series** AND are **moderately or severely immune compromised**.

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is not yet approved as an additional dose. Recommendations may change in the future as more data becomes available.

Conditions and treatments include:

- Active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Solid organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge, Wiskott-Aldrich syndromes)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that suppress immune response

When can it be given?

28 days after receiving the two-dose series of Pfizer or Moderna



Talk to your doctor to see if getting an additional dose is right for you.