

COVID Vaccines – Pfizer for 5-11 year olds

On November 2, 2021, the CDC approved a recommendation that children ages 5-11 to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. This follows the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) grant of an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the vaccine.

Q: Where can my child receive a vaccine?

A: Vaccines will be available in many of the same places that were available for adult and adolescent doses. Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health is working with local schools and organizations to provide vaccine clinics. An appointment is required. To schedule your child’s appointment, visit ldchealth.org/getmyvaccine and enter the registration code. For help, call 785-843-0721.

When completing the registration, please include insurance information if available. If you do not have insurance, enter *COVID19 HRSA* as the insurance name and your child’s first and last name as the policy number. You will receive a confirmation text or email with a QR code when the registration is successfully submitted.

Date	Time	Location	Registration code	Room
Wed 11/10	4-7 p.m.	Eudora West Resource Center	PPEW111021	Gym
Wed 11/10	4-7 p.m.	East Lawrence Recreation Center	PPLE111021	Gym
Thu 11/11	3:30-6:30 p.m.	Lecompton Elementary School	PPLE111121	Gym
Thu 11/11	5-8 p.m.	Raintree Montessori School	PPRT111121	Library
Fri 11/12	4-7 p.m.	Holcom Park Recreation Center	PPHP111221	Gym
Fri 11/12	4-7 p.m.	Community Building	PPCB111221	Gym
Sat 11/13	9 a.m.-noon	West Middle School	PPWM111321	Gym
Sat 11/13	2-5 p.m.	Liberty Memorial Central Middle School	PPLM111321	Gym
Tue 11/16	4-7 p.m.	Baldwin High School	PPBC111621	Cafeteria
Wed 11/17	4-7 p.m.	Sports Pavilion Lawrence	PPSP111721	Legacy Room
Sat 11/20	9 a.m.-noon	Billy Mills Middle School	PPBM112021	Gym
Sat 11/20	2-5 p.m.	Southwest Middle School	PPSW112021	Gym

Pediatric COVID vaccines may also be available at many primary care providers and local pharmacies. A complete list is available at lmh.org/vaccine, douglascountyks.org/coronavirus or at vaccinefinder.org/search.

Q: How do I sign my child up to receive their second dose?

A: Lawrence Douglas-County Public Health will provide instructions on how to sign up for the second dose after your child receives their first dose. Information will also be made available at ldhealth.org/getmyvaccine and through social media when available.

Q: Is it safe to give children a new vaccine?

A: Millions of people in the U.S. have received COVID-19 vaccines. The mRNA technology used in Pfizer's vaccine has been studied for about 15 years. mRNA molecules occur naturally in humans and the vaccine molecules are destroyed and don't stay in the body. This means they're safe for growing bodies and shouldn't affect puberty or fertility.

Q: Will my child be receiving a live vaccine?

A: No. The vaccine doesn't introduce a live COVID virus to the body. It helps trigger the immune response within the body and teaches cells to recognize the COVID-19 virus. When the immune system responds, it starts to produce antibodies in the way that it would with a natural infection.

Q: If my child already had COVID, should they still get the vaccine?

A: Yes! While there is some immunity following a COVID infection, it won't last as long and won't be as strong as the immunity generated by the vaccine.

Q: Is there a difference between an adult dose and a pediatric dose of the Pfizer vaccine?

A: A pediatric dose of Pfizer's COVID vaccine is 10 micrograms, which is one-third the dose for people ages 12 and older. As with the older group, children will receive the vaccine in two doses, given at least three weeks apart.

Q: How many children participated in the vaccine trial?

A: There were 2,268 children originally in the trial, two-thirds of whom received the vaccine with the rest receiving a placebo. The trial was then expanded to about 4,500 children.

Q: Are the side effects from the Pfizer vaccine different in children than in adolescents?

A: According to the FDA, the side effects in children are comparable to those in adolescents. These include pain at the injection site, fatigue, headache, chills, muscle pain, fever and joint pain. If they occur, side effects usually subside in one to three days.

Q: I've still got questions about the vaccine and its safety. Who can I talk with about my concerns?

A: Your child's primary care physician, pediatrician or trusted healthcare provider can answer your questions. Pharmacists at LMH Health and local pharmacies are also available.