

UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.

Dear Members,

Today, Secretary Chen sent a [letter](#) addressed to residents and families regarding the importance of COVID-19 boosters. This letter will reach more residents and families if ALRs share it with their networks. EOEA also released a [letter](#) jointly issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Massachusetts Hospital Association representing hospitals, the Massachusetts Medical Society representing physicians, and the Mass League representing Community Health Centers to all health care providers encouraging patients to be fully up to date on their COVID-19 vaccination series. These organizations are alerting providers that, "there are still 3.2 million Massachusetts residents eligible for either their first or second booster dose who have not yet received it."

Here are some key points from Secretary Chen's letter. All Massachusetts residents aged 50+ are eligible to and should receive a second COVID-19 booster at least 4 months after their first booster. Vaccines and boosters are available at over 800 retail pharmacies. For those individuals unable to travel to those locations, the in-home service continues to be available. To schedule an in-home vaccination, call **833-983-0485**, or find your local vaccine site at [Vaxfinder](#). The CDC's COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters Tool can be used to determine if you need another shot in order to be up-to-date on this vaccination series.

You may access the communication from EOEA Secretary Elizabeth Chen to residents and families [here](#) and the provider letter [here](#). The provider letter shares supporting resources and states that providers should reach out to and urge all residents to get their boosters as soon as they are eligible, consider ways to make boosters more accessible, and share educational and awareness materials (including flu vaccine reminders) to encourage residents to receive COVID-19 booster, and assist residents who may require support in accessing the vaccine.

You are encouraged to share this information with your colleagues.

If you have any questions, please contact us at Mass-ALA@mass-ala.org

**The information provided in this COVID-19 update is solely for general informational purposes to assist in understanding the evolving guidance regarding the current COVID-19 public health threat. It is not intended to be a primary public health or medical resource but is provided as a clearinghouse for or compilation of various guidance issued by official and related sources.*

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