

# UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.

Dear Members,

EOEA has shared the most recent information regarding COVID-19 booster availability. As we approach the cold and flu season and more time is spent indoors, plans are currently under way in many ALRs to hold clinics for flu vaccines and COVID-19 boosters. Please see the EOEA announcement below in order to facilitate your planning.



## An Update from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs

Dear colleagues,

We want to share the most up to date information related to COVID-19 and the recently approved Bivalent Booster. We hope you will share this with your networks and consumers.

As of September 1, 2022, updated Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 boosters are now authorized by the FDA and recommended by the CDC:

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/s0901-covid-19-booster.html>

**These updated boosters are now available in Massachusetts.**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has developed the following FAQ which will also be posted on mass.gov.

- **What are the updated boosters?**
  - The new COVID-19 booster vaccines from Moderna and Pfizer are updated versions of the original vaccines. The updated boosters were recently authorized by the FDA and recommended by the CDC.
- **Who should get the new booster?**
  - Anyone age 12 or older who completed a primary COVID-19 vaccination series or received a booster dose at least two months ago should get the updated booster as soon as possible.

- **Why do I need a booster?**
  - Staying up to date on vaccines, including boosters, is the most effective way to prevent serious illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19. While vaccine protection decreases over time, boosters restimulate the immune system and increase vaccine efficacy again. Boosters are an important defense, even if you've already had COVID.
- **When and where can I get a booster?**
  - Updated boosters are currently available in Massachusetts. You can get a booster at many locations across the Commonwealth, including where you received previous vaccines. Locations include doctor's offices, hospitals, pharmacies, and community health clinics.
- **Where can I get more information?**
  - You can visit [www.mass.gov/covidbooster](http://www.mass.gov/covidbooster) for the latest information

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***If you have any questions, please contact us at [Mass-ALA@mass-ala.org](mailto: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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