



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY

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COVID-19 Vaccine Update: Eligibility Expands to Residents Age 16 and Older

The County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department has expanded COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to include **all San Luis Obispo County residents age 16 and older**. The County will prioritize providing appointments for older residents who are at highest risk of serious COVID-19 outcomes, ahead of providing appointments to newly-eligible residents at lower risk.

The COVID-19 vaccine is always free of charge at County community vaccine clinics, regardless of health insurance or immigration status. Eligible residents age 16 or 17 must have a parent or guardian with them at their appointment.

For detail, see [When and Where Can You Get Vaccinated?](#) at RecoverSLO.org.

Where to get the vaccine

Vaccine is available by appointment at County vaccination clinics in Arroyo Grande, Paso Robles, and San Luis Obispo.

Vaccine is also available from some local pharmacies and health care providers. The County encourages pharmacies and health care providers to follow these expanded local guidelines; however, because some receive their vaccine allocation from the Federal government rather than the County, these providers might not be able to provide vaccine to this expanded group (particularly those age 16-29 who are not otherwise eligible by employment sector or medical condition) right away. Any eligible residents who sign up in the County's registry will be on the list to get a vaccine appointment at one of the County's three mass vaccination clinics.

- **For an appointment at County vaccine clinics:** [Eligible community members](#) can sign up to get a first-dose appointment through the Vaccine Appointment Registry at www.RecoverSLO.org/Vaccine. As appointments become available, eligible registrants will be sent a link to schedule their time and location. For help signing up, call the County's Phone Assistance Center at (805) 543-2444 or (805) 781-4280.
- **For an appointment at local pharmacies:** Eligible residents can also get a COVID-19 vaccine appointment at some local pharmacies. See [RecoverSLO.org](#) for a list of local vaccine providers and links to check availability at these locations. Please note some pharmacies may bill insurance and/or charge an administration fee to those who do not have insurance. Please remind patients to check with their pharmacy about any vaccine administration fees they may charge. (The vaccine is free of charge at County clinics.)

Public Health Department

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www.slopublichealth.org

Patient requests or preferences among available COVID-19 vaccines

The Public Health Department is following CDC and FDA guidelines for safely administering the available COVID-19 vaccines.

Eligible residents age 16 or 17 who register for an appointment at a Public Health Department site will receive the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine because it is the only one that has received EUA for those under age 18.

Due to the limited and unpredictable supply of vaccine and the complexity involved in distributing it, we cannot provide an option for residents age 18 and older to choose which of these vaccines they would like to receive. Our public health recommendation is that eligible residents may safely receive any of the three available vaccines, with appropriate pre-screening and post-vaccine observation. If patients express a strong preference and will only accept one type of vaccine, they may contact local pharmacies or use a tool such as [VaccineFinder.org](https://vaccinefinder.org) to identify an appointment for the vaccine they would like to receive.

How to become a provider of the COVID-19 vaccine

We encourage health care providers in SLO County to enroll to receive COVID-19 vaccine for eligible patients. For an overview of the process and to get started, visit the myCalvax enrollment portal at <https://mycavax.cdph.ca.gov>. Questions? Email covidcallcenter@cdph.ca.gov or call (833) 502-1245.

Answers to FAQs about COVID-19 vaccine in SLO County

Please encourage your staff and patients to review frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccine in SLO County. These FAQs are updated daily and include specific local information: www.RecoverSLO.org/VaccineFAQs

CDC provides guidance for health care providers on talking with patients about the vaccine, answering questions, and addressing specific concerns: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/hcp.

For vaccine updates

For local updates on COVID-19 vaccine, we encourage patients and health care providers to:

- Regularly check www.RecoverSLO.org/Vaccine.
- Sign up for email updates at www.EmergencySLO.org/Subscribe
- Follow the Public Health Department on social media: [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#)
- Watch the Public Health Department's news briefings at www.EmergencySLO.org/Briefings
- Call the recorded Public Health Information Line at (805) 788-2903.