



CITY of NORTHAMPTON
Department of Health & Human Services
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Additional COVID Vaccine Appointments for Babies and Young Children Available Now at Clinics

NORTHAMPTON - On July 11, 2022, the Northampton Department of Health and Human Services launched COVID vaccine clinics for young children starting at age six (6) months of age to receive the newest version of the Moderna and PfizerBioNTech vaccines for those age groups.

Vaccine clinics are being held on Mondays at the Elks Club in Florence and due to high demand, there will be additional appointments specifically for the Moderna vaccine for babies and young children. "I'm very excited about finally serving our youngest community members. I am very proud of our staff and many medical volunteers who have stepped up to be refreshed on giving injections to our youngest neighbors and to make our clinics even more child-friendly," said Public Health Nurse Kate Kelly.

Local Public Health officials and pediatricians are advocating that children receive COVID vaccines. In addition, The [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) (AAP) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) recommend the COVID-19 vaccine for infants, children and teens. There is no preference for the Moderna vaccine or the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Moderna has a two-dose series rather than the three doses of the Pfizer vaccine. Both vaccines are safe and effective.

Department of Health and Human Services Commissioner Merridith O'Leary states, "I strongly recommend that all members of the community get up to date with their COVID vaccinations and certainly receive any boosters for which they are eligible. While I recognize that it can be confusing that people who have been vaccinated can still test positive for COVID and have some symptoms, vaccines are preventing countless hospitalizations and deaths right here in Hampshire County."

COVID vaccines are free and clinics are open to the public; anyone from any town may receive a dose at the clinics. The regular schedule for COVID clinics for the months of July and August is as follows:

- Appointments for babies ages six (6) months up through children ages four (4) years (Pfizer) and five (5) years (Moderna)
 - Mondays from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 17 Spring Street, Florence
 - *Note these are by appointment only in order to schedule pediatric staff and volunteers as well as to keep the clinic flowing smoothly for young babies and toddlers. If someone is struggling to find an appointment for multiple children from the same household on the same day, please contact Public Health Nurse Kate Kelly at kkelly@northamptonma.gov for assistance.*
- Walk-up or appointments for anyone ages five (5) years old and older for boosters or any other doses of the appropriate Pfizer and Moderna formulations
 - Mondays from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 17 Spring Street, Florence

- Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. outside in Pulaski Park, downtown Northampton (weather permitting)
- Doses by appointment for homebound individuals.

More information about appointments at clinics or for home visits is found at:

<https://www.northamptonma.gov/2219/Vaccine-Clinics>

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