

COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters for Spring

Update to York Region health care professionals as of April 11, 2023

On April 6, 2023, the Ministry of Health [announced](#) a spring COVID-19 vaccine booster campaign for an additional booster dose for individuals at high risk of severe illness due to COVID-19.

The following high-risk groups are recommended to receive an additional bivalent COVID-19 booster **six months** after their last dose or confirmed COVID-19 infection:

- Individuals aged 65 years and older
- Residents of long-term care homes, retirement homes, Elder Care Lodges, and other congregate living settings for seniors
- Individuals aged 18 years and older living in a congregate care setting for people with complex medical care needs
- Pregnant individuals
- Individuals aged 18 years and older who are moderately to severely immunocompromised
- Individuals aged 55 years and older who identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis and their non-Indigenous household members aged 55 years and older

Anyone aged five and older who has yet to receive a bivalent booster dose following their primary dose series should obtain one as soon as possible.

Also, everyone aged five and older will remain eligible to receive an additional bivalent booster dose six months after their last dose or confirmed COVID infection (e.g., based on an individual's risk factors or a health care provider recommendation) although it is not recommended at this time.

Changing to a minimum six-month (168 days) interval for additional COVID-19 booster doses

In addition to the announcement above, the Ministry of Health is moving to a minimum six-month (168 days) interval since the last booster dose or confirmed COVID-19 infection. This minimum interval applies to anyone eligible for additional doses, including the high-risk groups listed above. COVID-19 vaccine intervals between doses in a [primary series](#) remain unchanged. The previous dose intervals will be honoured for appointments that are already booked. New appointments and walk-in patients will follow the minimum six-month interval.

Continue to encourage COVID-19 vaccination for booster doses

Please encourage any patient (or their parent/guardian) aged five and older who have completed a primary series but have yet to receive a bivalent booster to get a COVID-19 booster dose once they are eligible.

In-home vaccination requests for individuals with challenges attending a clinic and their caregivers

York Region Public Health continues to offer in-home vaccinations for people who live in York Region with challenges attending a clinic and their caregivers.

This includes those with physical, mental, or other needs and who find it difficult to leave home to receive the vaccine.

Please inform your patients and their caregivers to call Access York at 1-877-464-9675 to see if they qualify for an in-home vaccination.

Walk-in or scheduled appointments are available

Eligible individuals can receive a COVID-19 vaccine at a [York Region Public Health COVID-19 vaccine clinic](#). Appointments are available [online](#) or by calling Access York at 1-877-464-9675.

Contact Us

For more information, call our dedicated health care professional line at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 77280 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday) or visit york.ca/healthprofessionals. For the latest information on COVID-19 in York Region, please visit york.ca/COVID19.

For questions regarding COVID-19 vaccine ordering, please contact our Vaccine Inventory Program at COVID19vaccine@york.ca or call 1-877-464-9675 ext. 50174.

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