✈ NEW THIS WEEK!

CSHD IS OFFERING PFIZER COVID-19 VACCINE BOOSTERS TO ALL ELIGIBLE PERSONS

As of 9/23/2021

Millions of Americans who received the Pfizer vaccine are now recommended to get a booster dose.

Who's eligible for a booster?

Age 65+
Along with those who live in long-term care facilities

High Risk
Adults age 50-64 with with underlying medical conditions that put them at high risk for severe COVID-19. Younger adults age 18-49 should consider getting a booster based on their individual risk assessment.

High Exposure
Adults age 18-64 who are: healthcare workers, teachers, daycare staff, grocery workers, people in shelters or prisons, among others.

Questions about boosters? Talk to your healthcare provider.

Booster doses are now recommended for some groups of people. The CDC recommends the following:

- people 65 years and older and residents in long-term care settings should receive a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series,
- people aged 50–64 years with underlying medical conditions should receive a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series,
- people aged 18–49 years with underlying medical conditions may receive a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks, and
- people aged 18-64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting may receive a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks.

The top priority for VDH is still to fully vaccinate people who remain unvaccinated. All three COVID-19 vaccines approved and authorized in the United States continue to be effective in reducing the risk of severe disease, hospitalization, and death, even against the Delta variant. Nearly all the cases of severe disease, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19 continue to occur among those not fully vaccinated. Recent data show hospitalization rates are 10 to 22 times higher among the unvaccinated compared to vaccinated adults.

There is no rush for eligible individuals to get a booster dose right away. Vaccine protection decreases gradually over time. Boosters of the Pfizer vaccine are recommended at least 6 months after receiving the second dose, and individuals still have good protection against COVID-19 if they don't receive a booster dose as soon as they are eligible.

As the science and the virus evolves, so do policies and recommendations. Booster doses are common for many vaccines. The scientists and medical experts who developed the COVID-19 vaccines continue to closely watch for signs of waning immunity, how well the vaccines protect against new mutations of the virus, and how that data differs across age groups and risk factors.

What should I do if I received the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccine? At this time, we are still awaiting further research and guidance regarding boosters for Moderna and Johnson & Johnson. Pfizer was the first vaccine to be authorized, and therefore its data on any waning effectiveness was also available first.

If you have completed your Moderna series and you are immunocompromised, you may receive a third dose of Moderna or Pfizer, if Moderna is not available. Speak with your primary care provider if you have questions about receiving a third dose for immunocompromising conditions.

Looking for an opportunity to get your Pfizer COVID-19 booster shot this week?

Thursday, October 7, 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.
James Madison University Convocation Center
Pfizer (Booster doses for eligible persons, first and second doses also available)
Johnson & Johnson (First dose)
Walk-ins welcome. To skip the line, make an appointment at vase.vdh.virginia.gov.

OR visit any of our weekly health department COVID-19 vaccine clinics!

No proof of eligibility required.

FREE COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

October 7, 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.
James Madison University
Convocation Center

895 University Blvd
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Pfizer (Ages 12+) *2 shots*
Johnson & Johnson (Ages 18+) *1 shot*

WALK-INS WELCOME!

SKIP THE LINE AND REGISTER AT
VASE.VDH.VIRGINIA.GOV

Booster doses available for eligible individuals!

Read more about COVID-19 Booster Doses

CONTINUED COVID-19 TESTING CLINICS IN CSHD

COVID-19 TESTING CLINIC

Testing is only available for the below individuals, regardless of vaccination status:

- Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms, and/or
- Individuals who have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19

Eligibility screening will occur onsite. Questions? Call the Staunton-Augusta Health Department at (540) 332-7830

The Central Shenandoah Health District continues to offer free, drive-thru COVID-19 testing clinics each week throughout the district. Testing is available for individuals, regardless of vaccination status, who have symptoms of COVID-19 and/or have been exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19. Eligibility will occur onsite.

Monday, October 4 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am at Hillandale Park, Harrisonburg
Tuesday, October 5 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am at Augusta County Government Center
Thursday, October 7 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am at Hillandale Park, Harrisonburg
Friday, October 8 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am at Augusta County Government Center

PCR tests available. A health department employee will call with results once available. Individuals should isolate until they receive a negative test. Call the Staunton-Augusta Health Department for questions or assistance: (540) 332-7830.

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Read more about COVID-19 testing guidance

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UPCOMING WEBINARS OPEN TO ALL HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND STAFF

- **Wednesday, October 6th at 6:00 PM:** Join VDH for a Webinar on COVID-19 Boosters and New Therapies: What's New, What's True - This free panel event has been approved for Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit /Continuing Education (CE) credit for physicians, nurses, and pharmacists.
    - Panelists: Taison Bell, MD; Gonzalo Bearman, MD, MPH; Alexis Page, PharmD, BCACP. Moderator: Alan Dow, MD, MHSA.
    - Dial In: +1-408-418-9388, Meeting Number: 132 916 5219, Webinar Link: Click Here to Join
    - Please share details of this panel event with members of your professional organizations.

- **Wednesday, October 20th at 6:00 PM:** Join VDH for a Webinar on COVID-19 Vaccine Insights for the Pediatrician - This free event has been approved for Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit /Continuing Education (CE) credit for physicians, nurses, and pharmacists.
    - Panelists: Christy Gray, MPH, CHES, CHTS-CP; Danny TK Avula, MD, MPH; Rebecca Levorson, MD, FAAP. Moderator: Michael Martin, MD FAAP.
    - Dial In: +1-408-418-9388, Meeting Number: 132 605 3945, Webinar Link: Click Here to Join
    - Please share details of this panel event with members of your professional organizations.

- **Wednesday, November 3rd at 6:00 PM:** Join VDH for a Webinar on Understanding COVID-19 Vaccine: What the Evidence Tells Us - This free event has been approved for Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit /Continuing Education (CE) credit for physicians, nurses, and pharmacists.
    - Panelists: Richard Wenzel, MD, MSc; Chris Ghaemmaghami, MD, FACEP; Kelly Goode, PharmD, BCPS, FCCP. Moderator: Wendy Klein, MD, MACP.
    - Dial In: +1-408-418-9388, Meeting Number: 132 936 7287, Webinar Link: Click Here to Join
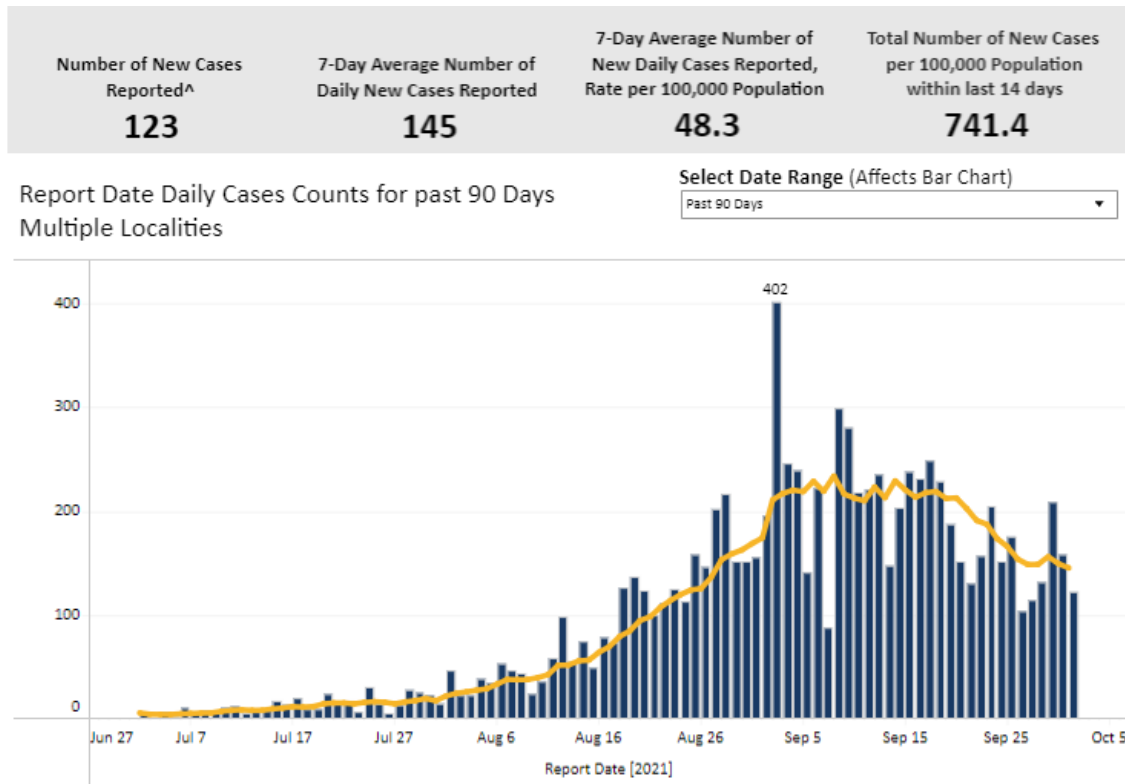   - Please share details of this panel event with members of your professional organizations.

Case Trends

The chart below illustrates the rate of cases throughout the Central Shenandoah Health District over the last 90 days.

Number of New Cases Reported^	7-Day Average Number of Daily New Cases Reported	7-Day Average Number of New Daily Cases Reported, Rate per 100,000 Population	Total Number of New Cases per 100,000 Population within last 14 days
123	145	48.3	741.4

Report Date Daily Cases Counts for past 90 Days
Multiple Localities

Select Date Range (Affects Bar Chart)
Past 90 Days ▼

Case Data Breakdown

As reported to VDH, by date of lab report. May differ from other sources, due to reporting lags. Negative numbers indicate data corrections, since March 2020. More data can be found here.

	7-Day Average Number of Daily New Cases Reported	Total Cases	Total Hospitalizations	Total Deaths
Rockingham County	14	8,728	537	133
Harrisonburg City	27	7,889	237	100
Augusta County	47	9,468	268	110
Staunton City	12	3,208	96	78
Waynesboro City	7	3,271	90	42
Rockbridge County	3	1,969	68	52
Lexington City	5	1,496	32	33
Buena Vista City	7	1,159	30	22
Bath County	1	417	14	14
Highland County	0	159	2	1
Totals:	123	37,764	1374	585

Vaccination Rates

You are considered to be fully vaccinated 2 weeks after your second dose in a 2-dose series or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine.

In the Central Shenandoah Health District, vaccination percentages are broken down by locality and city below:

	Percentage of Population receiving one dose	Percentage of Population fully vaccinated	Percentage of Adults receiving one dose	Percentage of Adults fully vaccinated
Rockingham County	51.5	47.1	61.8	56.6
Harrisonburg City	51.3	46.4	57.6	52.2
Augusta County	54.5	50.3	63.5	58.8
Staunton City	63.3	57.7	73.7	67.5
Waynesboro City	59.3	53.8	72.7	66.2
Rockbridge County	56.0	51.5	64.2	59.3
Lexington City	52.8	48.8	57.5	53.1
Buena Vista City	53.6	48.3	64.0	57.9
Bath County	53.7	47.6	61.5	54.6
Highland County	55.3	52.4	62.6	59.6
Totals:	*55.1*	*50.4*	*63.9*	*58.6*

Data Sources - Find out more!

The Virginia Department of Health maintains a COVID-19 dashboard containing case, vaccination and transmission data. To find out more about this data and how it is collected, click the link below!

Visit the VDH COVID-19 Data Dashboard

COVID-19 MITIGATION

Vaccination is our number one line of defense in defeating COVID-19. All COVID-19 vaccines approved and authorized in the United States are safe, effective and free. **The Central Shenandoah Health District encourages everyone who is eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine do so as soon as possible!**

In addition to vaccination, layering other public health mitigation measures can keep you and your family safe! This can include:

- **Masking up in areas of high transmission**, even if you have already been vaccinated. Currently, the majority of localities throughout the state are in a state of substantial to high transmission. Read more about transmission here.
- **Practice physical distancing (also known as social distancing)**, and stay 6 feet apart from others. It is a way to slow the spread of COVID-19 by reducing close contact between people. The closer you are to other people who are not fully vaccinated and the more time you spend with those people, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread.
- **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.** If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, rubbing your hands together for at least 30 seconds until they are dry.

Read more about COVID-19 Mitigation Best Practices

Department of Justice • Drug Enforcement Administration

COUNTERFEIT PILLS FACT SHEET

FAKE PRESCRIPTION PILLS • WIDELY AVAILABLE • INCREASINGLY LETHAL

CRIMINAL DRUG NETWORKS ARE FLOODING THE U.S. WITH DEADLY FAKE PILLS

- Criminal drug networks are mass-producing fake pills and falsely marketing them as legitimate prescription pills to deceive the American public.
- Counterfeit pills are easy to purchase, widely available, often contain fentanyl or methamphetamine, and can be deadly.
- Fake prescription pills are easily accessible and often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms—making them available to anyone with a smartphone, including teens and young adults.
- Many counterfeit pills are made to look like prescription opioids such as oxycodone (Oxycontin®, Percocet®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®), and alprazolam (Xanax®); or stimulants like amphetamines (Adderall®).

COUNTERFEIT PILLS ARE WIDELY AVAILABLE ACROSS EVERY STATE IN THE COUNTRY

- DEA and its law enforcement partners are seizing deadly fake pills at record rates.
- More than 9.5 million counterfeit pills were seized so far this year, which is more than the last two years combined.
- Counterfeit pills have been identified in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

COUNTERFEIT PILLS OFTEN CONTAIN FENTANYL AND ARE MORE LETHAL THAN EVER BEFORE

- The number of DEA-seized counterfeit pills with fentanyl has jumped nearly 430 percent since 2019.
- Officials report a dramatic rise in the number of counterfeit pills containing at least 2 mg of fentanyl, which is considered a deadly dose.
- Drug traffickers are using fake pills to exploit the opioid crisis and prescription drug misuse. CDC reports more than 93,000 people died last year of an overdose in the U.S., the highest ever recorded.
- Fentanyl, the synthetic opioid most commonly found in counterfeit pills, is the primary driver in this alarming increase in overdose deaths.

DEA lab testing reveals that 2 out of every 5 pills with fentanyl contain a potentially lethal dose.

- Drug trafficking is also inextricably linked with violence.
- This year alone, DEA seized more than 2,700 firearms in connection with drug trafficking investigations—a 30 percent increase since 2019.

THE ONLY SAFE MEDICATIONS ARE ONES THAT COME FROM LICENSED AND ACCREDITED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

- DEA warns that pills purchased outside of a licensed pharmacy are illegal, dangerous, and potentially lethal.

For more information about counterfeit pills, go to www.DEA.gov/onepill

Data as of September 2021

Please read this Public Safety Alert! This week, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) warned the American public about an increase in the sale of deadly, fake prescription pills. Here's what you should know:

- Prescription pills that are purchased from sources (like social media) other than a licensed pharmacist may be fake and contain deadly ingredients like fentanyl or methamphetamine. These fake pills are more deadly than ever before and may be disguised as medications like Oxycodone, Xanax, and Adderall.
- These fake pills can be made available to anyone who uses the internet or social media, including young adults and teens.
- You can protect yourself and your family by only getting safe medications that have been prescribed by a trusted medical professional and dispensed by a licensed pharmacist.

Please protect yourselves and your families by learning more at https://www.dea.gov/onepill.

COVID-19 VACCINE CLINICS

Click the button below for a full list of COVID-19 vaccine clinics happening in the Central Shenandoah Health District. The clinics are separated by region. Please note that the Pfizer vaccine is approved for ages 12+ and the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are approved for ages 18+. These schedules are subject to change

You can register for these clinics at *vase.vdh.virginia.gov.*

> **View the COVID-19 Community Calendars**

We also continue to partner with organizations throughout the district to provide access to COVID-19 vaccines. Visit the websites below for COVID-19 vaccine clinics operated by our community partners!

- Augusta Health: https://vaccinate.augustahealth.com/vaccine-appointments/
- Carilion Rockbridge Community Hospital: https://www.carilionclinic.org/covid-19-vaccine#latest-updates
- Health Community Health Centers: https://www.hburgchc.org/covid-19-2/
- Rockbridge Area Health Center: https://www.rockahc.org/coronavirus-covid-19-updates/
- Sentra Rockingham Memorial Hospital: https://www.sentara.com/harrisonburg-virginia/covid-19-information.aspx

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