



Superintendent's UPDATE

Thursday, November 4, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

Hello San Mateo County Education and Child Care Community,

It's been a banner week for vaccination news, creating both excitement and anxiety. This week's update provides specific information to help ease concerns about access to vaccinations for children and to help families plan how to schedule appointments for their children.

This week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) fully agreed with its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' recommendation that children ages 5 to 11 be vaccinated against COVID-19 with the Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric vaccine. According to [the CDC](#), "Vaccinating children will help protect them from getting COVID-19 and therefore reducing their risk of severe disease, hospitalizations, or developing long-term COVID-19 complications. Getting your children vaccinated can help protect them against COVID-19, as well as reduce disruptions to in-person learning and activities by helping curb community transmission."

Supplies of the vaccine have been shipped, and vaccination events across the county are scheduled. Many parents are anxious to get their children vaccinated, and there are many options for making that happen.

Vaccination Options for Children Ages 5 to 11

The following is a list of COVID-19 vaccination options for children. A flyer in English and Spanish with these options can [be found here](#). Please note, this list of options will continue to expand as we go through the next few weeks. Continue to visit [SMC Health's website](#) and the [MyTurn website](#) for updated information and opportunities.

Health Care Providers

Check with your child's pediatrician to schedule an appointment. Kaiser Health is making pediatric vaccination appointments for their members. Stanford Children's pediatric vaccination clinics can be found [here](#). Sutter/PAMF will have appointments available shortly.

Local Pharmacies

Several pharmacies in San Mateo County offer appointments and walk-up options for vaccinations for children. Please visit their websites – [CVS](#), [RiteAid](#), [Safeway](#), [Walgreens](#), [Costco](#), and [Lucky](#) – for the most current information on how to

schedule appointments. For a list of pharmacies and locations, visit the [SMCH website](#), which continues to be updated as new options become available.

SMC Health Vaccination Clinics

San Mateo County Health is organizing vaccination clinics for children. Visit [MyTurn](#) to schedule an appointment – search by the Event Center address (1346 Saratoga Ave., San Mateo) on the MyTurn site. These events are being further supported with community-funded efforts to make the Event Center site [child-friendly](#). More information can be found on the [SMCH website](#). Dates include:

- Saturday, November 6, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 9, 2:30 pm to 7:00 pm
- Thursday, November 10, 2:30 pm to 7:00 pm
- Friday, November 12, 2:30 pm to 7:00 pm
- Saturday, November 13, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Additional dates will be added as needed.

School Vaccination Clinics

Vaccination clinics are scheduled at the following school sites. Many of these events are already full, but as other opportunities open up, registrants may come off the list opening up additional spots.

- Monday, November 15 - Bayside Academy, San Mateo-Foster City School District
2025 Kehoe Avenue, San Mateo: [Register](#)
- Tuesday, November 16 - Sunset Ridge Elementary School, Pacifica School District 340
Inverness Drive, Pacifica: [Register](#)
- Wednesday, November 17 - T.R. Pollicita Gym, Jefferson Elementary 50 Orange
Street, Daly City: [Register](#)
- Thursday, November 18 - Hoover Elementary School, Redwood City 701 Charter
Street, Redwood City: [Register](#)

Community and Other Clinics

San Mateo County Health will continue to share options on [its website](#).

Coadministration of Vaccines

According to the CDC, it is not only okay to administer the COVID-19 and flu vaccine at the same time, [they encourage it](#) – “If a patient is due for both vaccines, providers are encouraged to offer both vaccines at the same visit. Coadministration of all recommended vaccines is important because it increases the probability that people will be fully vaccinated.”

Parent Information

Many parents still have questions about the vaccine and whether or not to vaccinate their children. Here are three ways parents can learn more about the vaccine.

- **Tonight**, November 4th, at 6:00 pm, SMC Health is hosting in Spanish with English interpretation a [webinar and Q&A with families](#) about vaccinations for youth. Join via Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube: @SMCHealth.
- [Johns Hopkins Medicine](#) shares important details about vaccines for parents.
- SMCOE and SMC Health created flyers in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) that share some of the reasons for youth to get vaccinated.

Don't Forget Boosters

In addition to Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson boosters are available through vaccination events at the San Mateo County Event Center, pharmacies, healthcare systems, and smaller clinics serving communities across the county. More information can be found on [San Mateo County Health's website](#).

Wishing everyone a healthy November. Next week's update will be released on Wednesday, November 10 since Thursday, November 11 is Veteran's Day.



Nancy Magee

San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools