

Fall 2025-2026 COVID-19 Immunization Program

Alberta's government is committed to ensuring that the highest-at-risk Albertans have access to the vaccines they need to protect themselves from COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccine will be made available to Albertans in two phases, starting with the highest risk groups before being made available to a wider range of Albertans. Eligible populations can access the vaccine from the time their phase starts until the end of the season or as long as the vaccine is available.

Individuals who are not considered to be at the highest of risk of severe illness from COVID-19 may still be able to access COVID-19 vaccine. A \$100 administrative fee will apply.

Eligibility by each phase:

Phase	Eligibility criteria	Start date	Fee
1	 Health Care Workers. All residents of continuing care homes and seniors supportive living accommodations. Home care clients. Individuals 6 months of age and older with underlying medical or immunocompromising conditions. Individuals experiencing houselessness. Individuals 65 years of age and older receiving the Alberta Seniors Benefit. 	Appointment booking opens September 29, 2025 (pending vaccine availability) to the end of campaign. Appointments begin October 1, 2025.	Free of charge
2	All other Albertans six months of age and older	October 20 to the end of campaign based on vaccine supply	A \$100 administrative fee will apply.

Eligible Health Care Workers:

- individuals actively registered with one of our colleges
- members of UNA, HSAA, AUNP)
- members of AUPE working in public health, acute care or continuing care homes and seniors supportive living accommodations
- health care students who are training in health facilities (for example, hospitals, pharmacies, clinics, LTC)
- physicians
- Health Care Aides who are on the provincial registry

 health care workers who are members of a registered college or union must bring proof of enrollment or association, as they will be required to validate their membership with the frontline provider

Eligible underlying medical conditions:

- cerebrovascular disease
- chronic liver diseases
- chronic lung diseases
- chronic kidney diseases
- cystic fibrosis
- diabetes mellitus, type 1 and type 2
- disabilities (for example, Down syndrome, learning, intellectual, or developmental disabilities; ADHD; cerebral palsy; congenital disabilities; spinal cord injuries)
- heart conditions (for example, cardiomyopathies, coronary artery disease, heart failure, etc.)
- mental health disorders (limited to: mood disorders, including depression; schizophrenia, spectrum disorders)
- obesity
- pregnancy
- tuberculosis

Eligible immunocompromising conditions:

- cancer (currently receiving treatment)
- HIV infection
- primary immunodeficiency diseases
- solid organ or blood stem cell transplant
- use of corticosteroids, other immunosuppressive medication or CAR T-cell therapy

Ways to reduce the risk of getting COVID-19:

Practice good hygiene

Practicing good hygiene habits can protect you and those around you from spreading COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses:

- stay home if you are feeling sick
- wash or sanitize your hands often
- cover your coughs and sneezes
- avoid touching your face

• clean and disinfect surfaces regularly (for example, counters, doorknobs)

Reduce risk indoors

Crowded or poorly ventilated indoor spaces can increase the risk of spreading respiratory viruses. You can help prevent the spread by:

- opening windows when possible
- ensuring ventilation systems are maintained
- limiting time spent in crowded indoor places

Wear a mask

Wearing a mask in public can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses. Wearing a mask can help reduce your risk of infection and help protect people from being exposed to your germs, especially those at high risk of severe outcomes.

 Individuals who are at higher risk for severe outcomes from respiratory virus infections (for example, people who are immunocompromised) may want to wear a mask while indoors with others.

Learn more about the Guidance for masks for the general public.

Isolate when sick

Isolation helps prevent the spread by reducing the number of people you could infect by staying home and avoiding others.

- If you have respiratory virus symptoms or test positive for any respiratory virus you should stay home until:
 - o your symptoms have improved and
 - o you are free of fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
 - When you are well enough to resume normal activities, it is recommended that you wear a mask when you are around others in indoor settings for 5 days, especially when in contact with anyone at high risk of severe outcomes.
- Anyone who is feeling unwell, regardless of whether they have tested positive for a
 respiratory virus or not, are advised to avoid visiting acute care or continuing care settings
 except when necessary (for example, to receive emergency care).
- Health care workers experiencing respiratory virus symptoms should follow their workplace policy.
- Hospitalized patients or residents in congregate care facilities or living sites should follow isolation recommendations directed by Acute Care Alberta and/or Assisted Living Alberta's Infection Prevention and Control or the facility.

Know how it spreads

COVID-19 is transmitted through tiny respiratory droplets or aerosols produced by people who have the virus.

- The virus spreads most commonly by breathing in air that contains infected droplets from people coughing, sneezing, talking, laughing, and singing, or when the infected droplets come into direct contact with another person's nose, mouth or eyes.
- The virus may also spread by touching objects or surfaces the virus has landed on and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- People who have COVID-19 can spread it to others before they start to feel sick.

COVID-19 does not appear to regularly transmit like measles through long-range transmission, but there are circumstances that raise the risk of aerosol transmission, such as crowded or poorly ventilated indoor spaces where people are engaging in activities like singing or high intensity exercise.

The virus generally only survives for a few hours on a surface or object, but it may be possible for it to survive several days under some conditions.

How to book an appointment:

- Book online bookvaccine.alberta.ca
- Call Health Link at 811

For more information:

- Visit Alberta.ca COVID-19 info for Albertans | Alberta.ca
- Call Health Link at 811

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