



## For immediate release:

**Date:** October 1, 2021

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### FDA Approves Booster Vaccine for Pfizer

On September 22, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized a single dose booster shot for the Pfizer vaccine only. Studies suggest that protection against the COVID-19 virus may decrease several months after receiving the Pfizer vaccine. This lower effectiveness is likely due to a combination of waning immunity, the greater infectiousness of the Delta variant and changes in exposure to the virus.

CDC and California Department of Public Health recommends the following groups **should** receive a booster at least 6 months after the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of the Pfizer vaccine:

- Individuals who are age 65 and older
- Long-term care residents who are 18 years or older
- Individuals aged 50-64 years with underlying medical conditions or are at increased risk due to social inequity

The following groups **may** also consider receive a booster at least 6 months after the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose:

- 18-49 and have an underlying medical condition
- 18-64 and work or live in a high-risk setting (like a shelter)

CDC defines high risk jobs as:

- First Responders (healthcare workers, EMS, firefighters and law enforcement)
- Education staff (Teachers, support staff, daycare workers)
- Food and agriculture workers
- Corrections workers
- Public Transit
- Grocery store workers

For more information from CDC go to <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html> or for more information from CDPH go to <https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/#Booster-shots-and-additional-doses>

Plumas County Public Health Agency will administer the booster vaccine to those who are 65 and older and received the Pfizer vaccine at least 6 months ago; call 530-283-6330 to schedule an appointment. All other eligible groups should contact their primary healthcare provider or local pharmacy. For more information you can go to the county website at <https://www.plumascounty.us/2839/COVID-19-Home>

The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are not authorized for a booster at this time. However, an additional dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine is available for individuals with moderately to severely compromised immune systems. Those who are eligible for an additional dose should contact their primary healthcare provider or local pharmacist. Plumas County Public Health Agency does not currently administer additional doses. For more information regarding additional dose you can go to <https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/#Booster-shots-and-additional-doses>