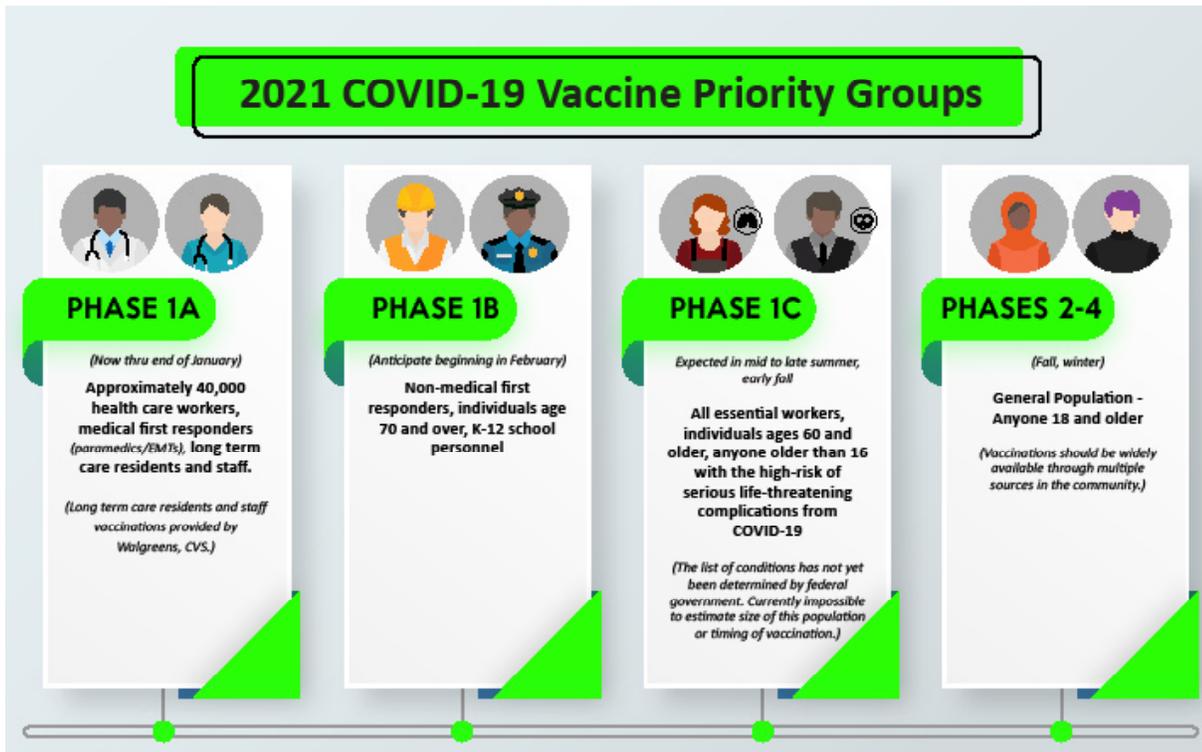


FAQs for the COVID-19 LouVax Site at Broadbent Arena

Who is eligible for vaccination?

Currently, only those in Tier 1A – healthcare workers, medical first responders, and long term care residents and staff – are eligible for vaccination. Here are the various vaccination tiers and priority groups:



When and where can I get vaccinated?

“If you work for one of the three hospital/healthcare systems (Norton Healthcare, Baptist Health, UofL Health) or a long term care facility, you should obtain the vaccination from your employer. If you **DO NOT** work for one of the three hospital systems, you can be vaccinated at the LouVax site at Broadbent Arena (part of the KY Fair and Expo Center, located just off I-65 in Louisville). **Vaccinations are by appointment only** and only available to those in the vaccine Phase 1A priority tier, healthcare workers, as mandated by state and federal guidelines. Click here to submit a form to request an appointment if you are a healthcare worker, not employed by Baptist Health, Norton Healthcare or UofL Health.



When will it be my turn?

The next group will be Tier 1B – nonmedical first responders, educators, corrections staff, and adults over the age of 70. This group will likely begin by February. Later groups include Tier 1C – adults over age 18 who have medical conditions that increase their risk of severe COVID infection – and Tier 2 – all adults over age 18. The timing for these groups is still uncertain.

How do I schedule?

If you are an independent healthcare worker (not affiliated with Norton Healthcare, Baptist Health, or UofL Health) and you completed the interest form on our website, you will receive an email from us. It will contain a link that will allow you to choose from a range of dates and times for your vaccine appointment. Remember that vaccinations are provided by appointment only and are not available on a walk-up basis.

Can I get the vaccine if I...

- **Have previously had COVID?**

Yes. It is recommended that you wait at least 30 days after your COVID symptoms resolve prior to receiving the vaccine, but you may receive the vaccine if you are not actively ill.

- **Have been exposed to COVID?**

Yes. You may receive the vaccine if you are not actively ill.

- **Currently have COVID?**

NO. If you have symptoms of COVID (cough, shortness of breath, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of smell or taste), if you have had a positive COVID test within the past 14 days, or if you have a fever for any reason, you can NOT receive a vaccine today. This is a CDC regulation.

- **Have allergies?**

Yes. Allergies of serious concern include those to polyethylene glycol (also known as MiraLAX and commonly found as an additive ingredient in pharmaceutical or cosmetic products) or to previous injected vaccines, especially if the reaction was anaphylaxis – a severe allergic reaction that may include swelling of your lips, tongue, or throat and may involve difficulty breathing, low blood pressure, a fast heart rate, and loss of consciousness. If you have a history of such reactions, you will be observed for thirty (30) minutes after your vaccination to ensure that you do not have a reaction to the COVID vaccine; if a reaction develops,



emergency resources are in place to treat you. Anaphylactic reactions are very rare, and all cases to date have been treated successfully.

- **Have cancer?**

Yes. Some people with cancer may produce a weaker immune response to the vaccine, but experts agree that it is safe for cancer patients to receive the vaccine. Talk to your doctor for specific questions related to your care.

- **Have previously had COVID?**

Yes. It is recommended that you wait at least 30 days after your COVID symptoms resolve prior to receiving the vaccine, but you may receive the vaccine if you are not actively ill.

- **Have been exposed to COVID?**

Yes. You may receive the vaccine if you are not actively ill.

- **Take certain medications like...**

- **Blood thinners?**

Yes. Patients on blood thinner medications may have more bruising or bleeding at the injection site than normal, but this is not typically dangerous.

- **Steroids?**

Yes. Some people who take steroid medications (especially if long term) may produce a weaker immune response to the vaccine, but experts agree that it is safe for them to receive the vaccine. Talk to your doctor for specific questions related to your care.

- **Immune suppressants (such as those that treat autoimmune disease)?**

Yes. Some people who take immune suppressant medications may produce a weaker response to the vaccine, but experts agree that it is safe for them to receive the vaccine. Talk to your doctor for specific questions related to your care.

- **Have recently received another vaccination?**

NO. If you have received another vaccination of any kind (including flu) within the past 14 days, you cannot receive a vaccine today. This is a CDC regulation.

- **Am pregnant?**

Yes. Although studies in pregnant women are limited, all available data suggests that it is safe for pregnant women to receive. Experts in obstetrics and gynecology suggest that the vaccine should be available for pregnant women because of their risk of severe COVID infection. If you receive the vaccine while pregnant, you will be observed for thirty (30) minutes to ensure you do not have a reaction.

- **Am breastfeeding?**

Yes. All available data suggests that it is safe for lactating women to receive the COVID vaccine, and that there is no need to “pump and dump” after receiving it.



How much does the vaccine cost?

The vaccine medication has been paid for by the government. If you have health insurance (including Medicaid, Medicare, or private insurers), your insurance will be billed for a small administration fee. There is no copay, regardless of your plan. If you do not have health insurance, or if your plan does not cover vaccinations, you will not receive a bill.

What does the process look like?

You should enter the Kentucky Exposition Center via Gate 4, from Crittendon Drive. The entry gate will be open – you will not be charged for parking. You will be directed into a line of traffic. At the first stop, staff will ensure that you have an appointment and that you do not have a fever. You will be directed to the Broadbent Arena entrance, will be allowed to drive inside, and will be directed into one of five lanes of traffic. Please stay in your lane and follow all posted signs and directions from staff.

Once in the lane, you will be asked several questions to ensure that it is appropriate to receive a vaccine today. After this is complete, you will pull forward to the nurse's station where you receive your injection through the window. The time it takes to pass through this process is estimated at 15 minutes, but may take longer at times of peak traffic.

Following the vaccination, you will be directed into a specific parking area, where you will wait for fifteen (15) minutes [or thirty (30) for some special cases] before leaving the Kentucky Exposition Center. Staff will be circulating in the parking lot to check on you. If you feel ill or need assistance during this time, turn on your hazard lights to signal staff. Otherwise, this is a great time to post your #ShotSelfie – don't forget to tag @LouMetroHealth!

Which vaccine will I get?

LMPHW is only providing the Moderna mRNA vaccine.



What side effects will I experience?

The most common side effects are soreness or redness at the injection site and mild fatigue. Some people experience headaches, body aches, fever, or chills. The overall rate of severe reactions is less than 0.5%.

What happens if I have symptoms after vaccination?

Keep in mind the possibility that you could have been infected with COVID around the time of receiving your vaccine; it can sometimes be difficult to tell the difference between COVID symptoms and vaccine side effects. These symptoms might include headache, fatigue, body aches, fever, or chills. Symptoms from the vaccine should stop within 48 hours; if your symptoms last longer, they are more likely to be from an infection.

Other symptoms, like cough, shortness of breath, or loss of taste and smell, are unlikely to come from the vaccine and likely indicate an infection regardless of how long they last. Call your doctor for specific questions related to your health and follow guidance from public health authorities. If you have severe symptoms such as difficulty breathing, call 911 or go immediately to the nearest emergency room – these symptoms are not from the vaccine.

Can I get COVID from the vaccine?

No. There are no virus particles in the vaccine, and it cannot cause a COVID infection.

Why do I need two shots? How do I get my second shot?

The second shot provides more complete and longer lasting protection against COVID infection. The Moderna COVID vaccine should always be administered as a series of two shots, with the second twenty eight (28) days after the first. You will confirm your second shot when you receive your first one, and you will automatically receive a reminder via email when it is almost time to return.



Will the vaccine make me test positive for COVID?

No. Antigen tests and molecular (or PCR) tests, which are the types most commonly used to diagnose infections, will continue to have accurate results. Antibody tests will show a positive result after vaccination, regardless of your infection status.

Do I still have to wear a mask after being vaccinated?

Yes. It will take several months for enough people to be vaccinated to reduce the overall community risk. Until that time, everyone needs to continue wearing a face covering, social distancing, practicing hand hygiene, and limiting gatherings. Visit StayStrongLouisville.com for more info.

What if I am exposed to COVID later? Do I still have to quarantine?

Guidelines for quarantine and isolation have not changed; if you are exposed to a known case of COVID-19, the safest thing is to quarantine for 14 days. If you have no symptoms, you may get tested on or after Day 5 for release as early as Day 7. If you have symptoms of COVID or test positive, you will need to isolate for 10 days – the vaccine is 95% effective, making infection unlikely but not impossible.

What if I have more questions?

Visit our website or call us for info about LouVax at Broadbent Arena:
[website] [phone]

Call Moderna for info about vaccine safety, effectiveness, or other questions about the science behind the vaccine: [phone]

