



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

September 27, 2021

### **PFIZER COVID VACCINE BOOSTER CLINICS SLATED Individuals must meet eligibility requirements to receive a booster shot**

CUMBERLAND, MD – The Allegany County Health Department will offer booster shots of the *Pfizer* COVID vaccine at clinics on Thursday, September 30 and Friday, October 1 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the gymnasium of Allegany College of Maryland. In order to obtain a booster shot, individuals must have received their second dose of the *Pfizer* vaccine between January and March 2021 and fit one of the following classifications:

- Age 65 or older
- Age 50–64 with underlying medical conditions
- Age 18–49 with underlying medical conditions at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19
- Age 18-64 at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of their occupation or location in an institutional setting

Only those who were initially vaccinated with the *Pfizer* COVID vaccine can get the *Pfizer* booster. Those who were vaccinated with Moderna or Johnson & Johnson cannot get the *Pfizer* booster shot.

Qualifying individuals can pre-register for an appointment at one of the booster clinics by visiting [health.maryland.gov/allegany](https://health.maryland.gov/allegany) and clicking on the “*Pfizer* COVID Booster Registration” link on the right-hand side of the page. Those over age 65 and those without Internet access can also attend the clinic on a walk-in basis, but pre-registration is preferred for anyone able to do so. *Pfizer* vaccine boosters may also be available from your local pharmacy, urgent care clinic, pediatric office or primary care provider if they carry the *Pfizer* COVID-19 vaccine.

First and second dose vaccines are available at Allegany County Health Department on Wednesday, September 29 at 12501 Willowbrook Road, Cumberland. Please note that the Wednesday clinic is not for booster doses. Vaccinations are free and no appointment is needed. From 9 a.m. to 12 noon, first and second doses of Moderna and the single-dose Johnson & Johnson COVID vaccines are offered. From 1 to 5:30 p.m., first and second doses of the *Pfizer* vaccine are offered for those age 12 and older. Anyone under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Free COVID-19 vaccines are also available at local pharmacies, urgent care clinics, pediatric offices, and some primary care providers.

As of September 26, 44.4% of Allegany County residents were fully vaccinated against COVID-19, compared to 64.1% of all Marylanders.

Drive-thru testing is offered at the Allegany County Fairgrounds, 11400 Moss Avenue, Cumberland, MD on Mondays from 2 to 7 p.m., and Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. No appointment is needed, but pre-registration is strongly encouraged to minimize wait times at the clinic. You can pre-register for testing by going to [health.maryland.gov/allegany](https://health.maryland.gov/allegany) and clicking on the pre-registration link under “COVID-19 Information” on the right side of the page.

#### **Allegany County COVID-19 Case Statistics as of September 26:**

- New COVID Cases: 77 (cumulative total 8,811)
- Additional Deaths: 2 (cumulative total 232)
- Cases Per 100,000 Population: 57.21 (*Maryland*: 20.15)
- Positivity Rate: 9.67% (*Maryland*: 4.2%)

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