



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 20, 2022

CDC RECOMMENDS COVID-19 BOOSTER FOR YOUTH AGES 5 TO 11 Fairgrounds testing and vaccinations unavailable next week

CUMBERLAND, MD – Following a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the CDC has recommended that children ages 5-11 receive a booster dose five months after their initial Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine series.

CDC Director Dr. Rochelle P. Walensky said “Children 5 through 11 should receive a booster dose at least 5 months after their primary series. Vaccination with a primary series among this age group has lagged behind other age groups leaving them vulnerable to serious illness. With over 18 million doses administered in this age group, we know that these vaccines are safe, and we must continue to increase the number of children who are protected. I encourage parents to keep their children up to date with CDC’s COVID-19 vaccine recommendations.”

The Allegany County Health Department offers COVID vaccinations for children ages 5 to 11 on Wednesdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Willowbrook Office Complex, 12501 Willowbrook Road, Cumberland, MD. Appointments are recommended and can be scheduled by going to the health department website at <https://health.maryland.gov/allegany>. For assistance registering for an appointment, county residents can call the COVID-19 call center at 240-650-3999. COVID-19 vaccines and boosters are also available at local pediatric offices and pharmacies.

The Allegany County Fairgrounds COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites are temporarily suspended due to another event scheduled at the fairgrounds. Testing at the fairgrounds will resume on June 1. Vaccinations at the fairgrounds will resume June 8. COVID-19 testing continues to be available at local urgent care clinics, some primary care providers, or through at-home test kits.

ALLEGANY COUNTY COVID-19 DATA AS OF MAY 19:

- CDC COVID-19 Community Level: Low
- New COVID Cases This Week: 111 (cumulative total 17,400)
- Additional Deaths This Week: 1 (cumulative total 363)
- Cases Per 100,000 People: 22.52 (Maryland: 38.0)
- Positivity Rate: 7.66% (Maryland: 8.39%)

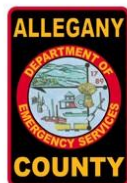
NEXT UPDATE: *Friday, May 27*

###

Media Contacts:



Brenda K. Caldwell
Public Information Officer
Allegany County Health Department
(301) 759-5239
brenda.caldwell@maryland.gov



Mark Karalewitz
Public Information Officer
Allegany County Department of Emergency Services
(240) 609-6506
mkaralewitz@alleganygov.org