

# I've already had COVID-19.

## Why do I need to get the vaccine?

The COVID-19 vaccine is proven to be extremely effective at preventing serious illness, hospitalization, and COVID-19 related deaths. People who survive a COVID-19 infection may develop some immunity against COVID-19, but the amount and length of protection is uncertain. **Even if you have already had COVID-19, vaccination will help your body build strong protection against getting sick again.**

Getting reinfected with COVID-19 means that you may spread COVID-19 to other people, whether or not you develop symptoms yourself. When people become infected, they may be hospitalized or die from COVID-19. **It is important for you to stay up to date on COVID-19 vaccination to help protect your friends and family.**



## Strengthen Your Body's Defense Against COVID-19

- Even if you have already been sick with COVID-19, you still need to get vaccinated for the best protection.
- Once you have recovered from COVID-19 illness and **criteria to discontinue isolation have been met**, you should get a COVID-19 vaccine.

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/diagnosed.htm>

- These recommendations should also be followed for a booster dose.

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-booster.htm>

- Staying up to date on your vaccination gives you a more **consistent level of** protection and will help keep you from getting sick again or passing the virus to others.



# I've already had COVID-19. Why do I need to get the vaccine?

## Even if you've previously tested positive for COVID-19:

- ◆ The COVID-19 vaccine teaches your immune system to recognize and fight COVID-19, **without you getting sick again and without the risk of spreading COVID-19 to others.**
- ◆ All of the COVID-19 vaccines available in the U.S. are safe and effective in building an immune response against COVID-19 and COVID-19 variants. **Evidence continues to demonstrate the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines.**
- ◆ Fully vaccinated people very rarely get sick with COVID-19 and data suggests those **who do get sick have less severe symptoms and a lower risk of hospitalization and death from COVID-19.**



<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-status.htm>

## Protect Your Community Through Vaccination

- People who have been fully vaccinated not only protect themselves but protect the people around them from the virus, too. This includes protection for young children who can't yet get vaccinated and people with weakened immune systems.
- COVID-19 vaccines effectively reduce the risk of COVID-19 for all of the circulating variants.
- Protecting yourself with the COVID-19 vaccine means you are helping to stop the spread of COVID-19 in your community.



When most people are vaccinated, less people will get sick and spread COVID-19.  
Visit [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm) to learn more.