

# 12

# STEPS

for getting a Pharmacy COVID-19 shot

**It's free!**

## Before You Go

- 1 Check your eligibility** for the vaccine at your local health department's COVID-19 website. Criteria can vary by state, county, city or territory. Pharmacies must stick to those criteria.
- 2 Find a pharmacy** that offers the vaccine by checking your local health department's COVID-19 website.
- 3 Make an appointment** online or through a vaccine-specific phone line. COVID-19 vaccines are not available on a walk-in basis.
- 4 Inform the pharmacy of any special needs**, including those related to hearing, sight, physical disabilities or language of choice.
- 5 Gather any needed documents** (for example, proof of residency) to bring to the pharmacy.
- 6 Wear clothing that gives easy access to your upper arm.**

## At the Pharmacy

- 7 Wear a well-fitted mask** that covers your nose and mouth or double mask. Stay at least six feet away from others.
- 8 Be patient.** Pharmacy staff are also caring for patients needing prescriptions, other vaccines and health advice.
- 9 Pharmacies are given vaccines by the government. No specific vaccine brand requests (for example, Moderna, Pfizer) may be made.**
- 10 Stay for 15 minutes**, or as advised, to be monitored for allergic reactions.
- 11 Schedule a second vaccine dose**, if needed, at the same pharmacy.
- 12 Go to [www.cdc.gov/vsafe](https://www.cdc.gov/vsafe)** to sign up for the V-SAFE phone app to get personalized health check-ins and report any vaccine side effects.

Learn more at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect.html).

The American Public Health Association champions the health of all people and communities. We are the only organization that combines a nearly 150-year perspective, a broad-based member community and the ability to influence federal policy to improve the public's health. Learn more at [www.apha.org](https://www.apha.org).



The **American Public Health Association Pharmacy Section** advances public health through the application of pharmacy knowledge and practice to promote health equity, access to care and optimal health.