



Vol. 6 | October 2021



Please get vaccinated as soon as possible, for yourself and for others.

Monday, October 18, 2021

is the final day to get the first dose of the Pfizer/COMIRNATY vaccine and meet the deadline to be fully vaccinated by November 22, 2021.

Getting vaccinated gets us back to normal.

Getting vaccinated is the best way to defeat this virus and get back to safely gathering with family, friends, and coworkers. The majority of American adults, including the vast majority of your DOL colleagues, have already been fully vaccinated. Here are some of their stories:

“I have some serious health issues, my mom is in her 80s, and lots of other friends, neighbors, and family members are at high risk too. When I finally got to the head of the line for my first shot, I couldn’t hold back tears, I was so grateful. I had already read about the new mRNA technology that was still under development a few years ago, so **it was pretty exciting to see a major historical accomplishment for public health and safety unfold before my very eyes.** We don’t think much about contagious disease EXCEPT as a bothersome vaccine requirement that we can be resentful at having to comply with. We have little idea in the U.S. what a blessing a vaccine is to a mother who is losing her third or fourth child to some preventable infectious disease. This technology will change the world in a way few other things ever could. Infectious diseases will no longer have us at their mercy. **We may even be able to prevent or cure some cancers using this technology. I’m glad I was alive to see it.** More of a thrill than watching Neil Armstrong land on the moon, actually (yes I am that old).”



— Terre Schill, OSHA

“I got my vaccine as early as I could this year. For me, it was an easy decision — **I wanted to have peace of mind in my daily life.** The vaccine is extremely effective at preventing both serious illness and death; what a gift to be able to go into a grocery store again and not wonder if that will be the day I get COVID and end up in the hospital, or worse. I live with my family, so in addition to protecting myself, it was important to me to do everything I can to protect them from getting sick. **I also got vaccinated to protect everyone I encounter in my community, like all the essential workers who have been carrying us through this pandemic.** Even more, I think getting vaccinated is the most important thing we can all do to start to move forward with our lives and get back to the moments we miss the most: family gatherings, supporting local restaurants, live theatre and performances, etc. **I encourage all my DOL colleagues to get vaccinated.**”



— Lucia Nunez, OSEC

Get your vaccine today.

[Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) | Text your ZIP code to 438829 | Call 1-800-232-0233

If you would like to provide a testimonial about your vaccination experience or have ideas about how we can promote vaccination, please email COVID19Questions@dol.gov with “Testimonial” or “Vaccine Encouragement” in the subject line.

In Case You Missed It

Here is a quick recap of the latest COVID 19 information and guidance sent to all DOL employees:

- [Requests for Medical or Religious Exceptions or Delays to the COVID 19 Vaccination Requirement](#)
- [Action Required: Update your VaxTrak Record!](#)
- [Upcoming Vaccination Requirement Deadlines](#)
- [Use of Duty Time for Vaccine Requirement Instead of Administrative Leave](#)



- [Extension of Expanded Workplace Flexibilities and Time Charging Guidance for Vaccinations](#)
- [Use of Administrative Leave for COVID-19 Vaccination Purposes](#)
- [Masking Requirements by DOL Location](#)

Additional information, including [Employee Messages](#), are posted on the [DOL COVID-19 LaborNet page](#). If you have questions, please visit the [FAQ page](#), or contact us at: [REDACTED]

Public Figures Urge Citizens to Get Vaccinated

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, public figures across the nation have been encouraging vaccination. Hear from governors and White House officials in this [compilation of public statements](#).



Watch several [former U.S. Presidents and First Ladies discuss the important role of COVID-19 vaccination](#) in getting back to the moments we miss and love.



Asked & Answered

You asked, and we answered!

Q: Are injuries resulting from the COVID-19 vaccine eligible for workers' compensation?



A: Federal employees can find guidance on Coverage for Injuries Resulting from the COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate for Federal Employees in [FECA BULLETIN NO. 22-01](#). If you are a Federal Employee or a Contractor and have sustained a work-related injury or illness, use [ECOMP](#) to report the incident to your supervisor. Additional information on filing a claim for Federal Employee work-related injuries can be found here [FECA Claimant and Rep Information](#).

Q: How do I download the forms required for DOL employees to use to request a medical or religious exception or delay to the COVID-19 vaccination requirement?

A: The forms required for requesting medical or religious exceptions or delays to the vaccination requirement are located at the following links:

- [- DL1-7071A Request for a Religious Exception to the Covid-19 Vaccination Requirement Form and Declaration](#)
- [- DL1-7071 Request for a Medical Exception or Delay to the Covid-19 Vaccination Requirement Form](#)

If you are having issues opening the form directly from the link provided, you MUST RIGHT CLICK the form name/link then select the "Save Link As" to save it to your documents folder. In order to edit the form, you must open the file from the documents folder where you have saved it.

If “Save Link As” is not an option upon right clicking, you must click the link so it opens in an internet browser. Once it opens in your browser, you must save click “save” or “download” and save it to your documents folder. In order to edit the form, you must open the file from the documents folder where you have saved it.

Q: When I try to upload my proof of vaccination documentation, I get a “Request Failed Status 413” error. What should I do?

A: If you are seeing a “Request Failed Status 413” error, the file size of the documentation that you uploaded might be too big. Please make sure the files that you upload are 1MB or smaller. Microsoft has a helpful reference guide for changing file sizes [here](#). If you have more than one document (e.g., photos of both the front and back of your vaccine card), you will need to combine them into one file as described [in these instructions](#).

If you continue to have trouble, please reach out to the [Enterprise Service Desk](#) [REDACTED].

For questions about VaxTrak, please reach to your [DOL VaxTrak Agency Point of Contact](#). For more FAQs, visit the [DOL COVID-19 FAQ LaborNet page!](#)

Check out these and other resources on the DOL COVID-19 LaborNet page!

- [VaxTrak Info Page](#)
- [Instructions for Combining Multiple Vaccine Sources](#)
- [Vaccine Info Page](#)
- [DOL VaxTrak Agency Points of Contact](#)
- [Message from the Deputy Secretary: Protecting Workers, Protecting Ourselves](#)
- [State-specific COVID-19 Vaccine Records](#)
- [DOL Workplace Safety Plan](#)
- [DOL Reentry and Post-Reentry Plan](#)

Questions? Please email us at [REDACTED]