

Administration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2022

Statement on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Authorization of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID–19 Vaccines for Children Under Age Five
June 18, 2022

Today is a monumental step forward in our Nation's fight against the virus, with virtually every American now eligible for the protections that COVID–19 vaccines provide. After a rigorous and independent scientific review, the Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have now authorized and recommended the first COVID–19 vaccines for kids under the age of 5.

For parents all over the country, this is a day of relief and celebration. As the first country to protect our youngest children with COVID–19 vaccines, my administration has been planning and preparing for this moment for months, effectively securing doses and offering safe and highly effective mRNA vaccines for all children as young as 6 months old.

We are ready to build on the progress of our historic vaccination program that has resulted in over 220 million Americans fully vaccinated, more than 100 million Americans boosted, and over 2 million American lives saved.

This coming week, parents will be able to start scheduling appointments at places like pediatricians' offices, children's hospitals, and pharmacies. Appointments will ramp up as more doses are shipped out, and in the coming weeks, every parent who wants a vaccine will be able to get one. As the vaccination program ramps up, vaccines.gov will be live next week with vaccine availability and appointments increasing throughout the week.

These vaccines are safe, highly effective, and will give parents the peace of mind of knowing their child is protected from the worst outcomes of COVID–19. If you are a parent who wants to protect your child, I urge you to speak with your child's pediatrician and make a plan to get your child vaccinated as soon as the vaccine becomes available to you.

Categories: Statements by the President : Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID–19 vaccines for children under age 5, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's authorization.

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