



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FLU VACCINATIONS FOR UNDERINSURED CHILDREN AT FREDERICK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FREDERICK, MD -- The Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) encourages all Frederick County residents to get a flu vaccination this season. Flu vaccine is readily available in our community, so the Health Department's focus will continue to be prioritizing children who are uninsured or who do not have a medical home. The Health Department will be offering flu vaccinations free of charge to children 6 months to 18 years of age who do not have health insurance, have health insurance that does not cover the cost of immunizations, or who are unable to get the vaccinated by their healthcare provider.

An appointment is required to obtain a flu vaccine. **Only the injectable (the shot) is available.** The free vaccine is provided by the Maryland Department of Health. Appointments are available on:

- Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 - Call 301-600-3342 and ask to speak with an Immunization Nurse to schedule an appointment.
- Tuesday, October 20, 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
 - Visit marylandvax.org to sign up for an appointment.

Please note that face coverings are required for everyone over 5 years.

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FCHD does not have available flu vaccine for adults 18 years of age and older. Adults should contact their healthcare provider or get a flu vaccine at one of the many locations in the community, such as pharmacies and grocery stores. Visit <https://vaccinefinder.org> to find other flu vaccinations in your zip code.

Important information for Parents or Guardians:

- Children 17 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older.
- If parent or guardian will not be bringing their child, they must send a written note giving the individual bringing the child authorization to have the child vaccinated.
- All vaccinated children are required to remain at the clinic for observation after vaccination.
- Only one parent or guardian may accompany children who have an appointment. Additional persons will not be admitted.

With COVID-19 and the flu coexisting this fall, it is more important than ever to take all precautions to keep you and your family healthy. Our healthcare workers have gone above and beyond to keep our community safe over the past six months. We are entering a pivotal season and it will take all of us doing our part to get through it together. Getting your flu vaccine is the best way to prevent getting the flu and possible complications from flu. Symptoms of the flu usually start suddenly and include fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, muscle aches, headache, and fatigue.

People most susceptible to the flu and its complications include:

- Children younger than 5 years of age
- People 65 years of age and older
- Pregnant women
- People with health issues such as asthma, diabetes and heart disease
- People who take medications that weaken the immune system such as chemotherapy

The Frederick County Health Department is unable to staff or support a business with employee flu clinic. Companies looking for this service should reach out to occupational health service agencies.

To learn more about flu or flu vaccination clinics please call the FCHD Flu Information Line, 301-600-3035, or visit [our website](#). Additional information about flu can be found at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov/flu.

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