

Massachusetts Department of Public Health Standing Order 2026 - 02
Standing Order for Local Board of Health Administration of COVID-19 Vaccine: 2026-2027

This standing order authorizes qualified local board of health personnel otherwise legally authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccine to administer COVID-19 vaccine in Massachusetts to all eligible persons pursuant to COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations issued by the Department of Public Health (<https://www.mass.gov/doc/dph-2026-27-covid-19-vaccine-recommendations/download>) and as described below.

Qualified local board of health personnel means: an individual who is affiliated with a local board of health by reason of employment, or contract, or other relationship such as a volunteer subject to the control of the applicable local board of health for purposes of administering COVID-19 vaccinations.

Local board of health means: the appropriate and legally designated health authority of the city, town, or other legally constituted governmental unit within the Commonwealth having the usual powers and duties of the board of health or health department of a city or town.

Procedure

1) Screen for Contraindications and Precautions.

Contraindications:

- History of anaphylaxis or a severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of the COVID-19 vaccine or to a component of the COVID-19 vaccine

Precautions:

- A diagnosed non-severe allergy to a component of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Non-severe, immediate (onset less than 4 hours) allergic reaction after administration of a previous dose of one COVID-19 vaccine type, if receiving the same vaccine type.
- Myocarditis or pericarditis within 3 weeks after a dose of any COVID-19 vaccine.
- Moderate to severe acute illness, with or without fever.

2) Provide Vaccine Information Statements (VIS).

3) Prepare to Administer Vaccine.

- Verify that the label on the vaccine states 2026-2027 Formula.
- Choose the needle gauge, needle length, and injection site.

4) Administer COVID-19 Vaccine per procedure below:

For intramuscular administration

mNEXSPIKE (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) injectable suspension, 2026-2027 Formula

- a. Individuals 12 years through 64 years of age
 - Dispense single 0.2 mL dose (teal label prefilled syringe 10mcg/0.2ml), irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status.
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer the dose of mNEXSPIKE at least

- 3 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- Directions for use: Administer mNEXSPIKE as a single 0.2 mL dose
- b. Individuals 65 years age and older
 - Dispense single 0.2 mL dose (teal label prefilled syringe 10mcg/0.2ml), irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status.
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer dose #1 of 2026-2027 mNEXSPIKE at least 3 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
 - Directions for use: Administer a total of two doses of 2026-2027 formula COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Dose #1: administer mNEXSPIKE 0.2 mL dose,
 - Dose #2: administer 6 months after dose #1 (Any licensed, age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine product may be used for the Dose #2 - minimum interval of 2 months for Comirnaty, Spikevax and Nuvaxovid and 3 months for mNexspike)

OR

- **SPIKEVAX (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) injectable suspension, 2026-2027 Formula**
 - a. Individuals 5 years of age through 11 years of age
 - Dispense single 0.25 mL dose (red label prefilled syringe 25 mcg /0.25 mL), irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status.
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer the dose ≥ 2 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
 - Direction for use: Administer SPIKEVAX 0.25 mL dose
 - b. Individuals 12 years of age through 64 years of age
 - Dispense single 0.5 mL dose (blue label prefilled syringe 50 mcg /0.5 mL), irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status.
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer the dose ≥ 2 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
 - Direction for use: Administer SPIKEVAX 0.5 mL dose
 - c. Individuals 65 years age and older
 - Dispense single 0.5 mL dose (blue label prefilled syringe 50 mcg /0.5 mL), irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer dose #1 of 2026-2027 SPIKEVAX at least 2 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
 - Directions for use: Administer a total of two doses of 2026-2027 formula COVID-19 vaccine
 - Dose #1: administer SPIKEVAX 0.5 mL dose,
 - Dose #2: administer 6 months after dose #1 (Any licensed, age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine product may be used for Dose #2 - minimum interval of 2 months for Comirnaty, Spikevax and Nuvaxovid and 3 months for mNexspike)

For Individuals AGE 6 MONTHS THROUGH 23 MONTHS, SPIKEVAX (MODERNA) ONLY:

Dispense and administer **SPIKEVAX** (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) injectable suspension, 2026-2027 Formula (red label 25 mcg /0.25 mL dose) per dosing schedule below.

COVID-19 VACCINATION HISTORY BEFORE 2026–2027 VACCINE	NUMBER OF 2026–2027 SPIKEVAX DOSES INDICATED	INTERVAL BETWEEN DOSES
Unvaccinated	2 doses	Dose #1: administer now

		Dose #2: 4-8 weeks after dose #1*
Started but did not complete the initial series • 1 prior dose Moderna	1 dose	4-8 weeks after the most recent dose*
Started but did not complete the initial series • 1 prior dose Pfizer	2 doses	Dose #1: 3-8 weeks after the last dose* Dose #2: at least 4 weeks after dose #1
Started but did not complete the initial series • 2 prior doses Pfizer	1 dose	Dose #1: At least 8 weeks after the last dose*
Previously completed the initial series (2 or more doses of Moderna or 3 or more doses of Pfizer)	1 dose	At least 8 weeks after the most recent dose

*An 8-week interval between the first and second COVID-19 vaccine doses might be optimal for some people as it might reduce the rare risk of myocarditis and pericarditis associated with these vaccines.

AGE 2 THROUGH 4 YEARS, ROUTINE SCHEDULE: SPIKEVAX (MODERNA) ONLY:

Dispense and administer **SPIKEVAX** (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) injectable suspension, 2026-2027 Formula (red label 25 mcg / 0.25 mL dose) per dosing schedule below.

COVID-19 VACCINATION HISTORY BEFORE 2026–2027 VACCINE	NUMBER OF 2026–2027 SPIKEVAX DOSES INDICATED	INTERVAL BETWEEN DOSES
Unvaccinated	1 dose	Administer now
Previously vaccinated with 1 or more doses of any mRNA COVID-19 vaccine	1 dose	At least 8 weeks after the most recent dose

OR

- **COMIRNATY** (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) injectable suspension, 2026-2027 Formula
 - a. Individuals 5 years of age through 11 years of age
 - Dispense single 0.3 mL dose (blue cap vial 10 mcg/0.3ml), irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer the dose at least 2 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
 - Directions for use: Administer COMIRNATY as a single 0.3 mL dose
 - b. Individuals 12 years of age through 64 years of age
 - Dispense single 0.3 mL dose (gray label prefilled syringe 30 mcg/0.3 ml), irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer the dose at least 2 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
 - Directions for use: Administer COMIRNATY as a single 0.3 mL dose
 - c. Individuals 65 years age and older
 - Dispense single 0.3 mL (gray label prefilled syringe 30 mcg/0.3 ml), irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer the dose of COMIRNATY at least 2 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
 - Directions for use: Administer a total of two doses of 2026-2027 formula COVID-19 vaccine -

- Dose #1: administer COMIRNATY 0.3 mL dose (gray border prefilled syringe) now,
- Dose #2: administer 6 months after dose #1 (Any licensed, age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine product may be used for Dose #2 - minimum interval of 2 months for Comirnaty, Spikevax and Nuvaxovid and 3 months for mNexspike)

OR

NUVAXOVID (COVID-19 Vaccine, Protein Subunit Adjuvanted) injectable suspension, 2026-2027 Formula

- a. Individuals 12 years of age through 64 years of age
 - Dispense single 0.5 mL dose, irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer the dose of NUVAXOVID at least 2 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
 - Directions for use: Administer NUVAXOVID as a single 0.5 mL dose
 - b. Individuals 65 years age and older
 - Dispense single 0.5 mL dose, irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status
 - For individuals previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine, administer the dose of NUVAXOVID at least 2 months after the last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
 - Directions for use: Administer a total of two doses of 2026-2027 formula COVID-19 vaccine
 - Dose #1: administer NUVAXOVID 0.5 mL dose now,
 - Dose #2: administer 6 months after dose #1 (Any licensed, age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine product may be used for Dose #2 - minimum interval of 2 months for Comirnaty, Spikevax and Nuvaxovid and 3 months for mNexspike)
- 5) Document the Vaccination.
 - 6) Be Prepared to Manage Medical Emergencies.
 - 7) Report Adverse Events to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).



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