

TRS health plans cover COVID-19 vaccines at no cost | view in [Web Browser](#)



Information About VACCINES AND BENEFITS

Hello,

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved and begun distributing two COVID-19 vaccines. We know that supporting your employees in staying healthy during the pandemic is top of mind. We want to assure you the COVID-19 vaccine will be covered at no cost to participants.

Next week, TRS will email TRS-ActiveCare participants about state and federal distribution plans. We've highlighted the main points of TRS's email below, so you're prepared for any questions that come your way.

Vaccine Coverage

All TRS-ActiveCare plans cover FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccines at no cost to participants. COVID-19 vaccination is considered part of preventive health care.

Vaccine Distribution Plan

Currently, people in groups Phase 1A and Phase 1B are eligible to get COVID-19 vaccines. Phase 1A includes front line health care workers and residents of long-term care facilities. Phase 1B encompasses:

- People 65 years of age and older
- People 16 years of age and older* with at least one chronic medical condition that puts them at increased risk, including:
 - o Cancer
 - o Chronic kidney disease
 - o COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
 - o Heart conditions including heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
 - o Solid-organ transplants
 - o Obesity
 - o Pregnancy
 - o Sickle cell disease
 - o Type 2 diabetes mellitus

Participants should keep checking the [Texas Department of State Health Services \(DSHS\) website](#) for the most up-to-date information about vaccine distribution.

*Only the Pfizer vaccine is approved for individuals who are 16 and 17. The Moderna vaccine is approved for people who are 18 and older.

Accessing the Vaccine

Participants can get the vaccine at their doctor's office, pharmacy, and other locations. They can also find a vaccine provider by visiting the [Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Locations map](#) or calling 2-1-1 in Texas.

Before making an appointment or heading to a pharmacy, they'll want to visit the provider's website or call to ask about vaccine availability. **There's a limited supply of vaccines.**

TRS-ActiveCare Vaccine Coverage

TRS-ActiveCare covers the COVID-19 vaccine under both medical and prescription benefits. We recommend participants bring their Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) and CVS Caremark ID cards as proof of coverage to their vaccine appointment.

Important COVID-19 Vaccine Notes

Participants should over-prepare for their vaccine appointment. Documentation of high-risk conditions for those under 65 and in Phase 1B is not currently required. However, providers may ask participants to complete a self-disclosure of their condition. You can encourage participants to call their provider ahead of their appointment and ask what, if any, proof of a qualifying condition is needed.

Participants may need more than one shot for effectiveness. The two currently approved COVID-19 vaccines require two doses. Participants will want to make sure to take the same vaccine for both doses.

Participants can learn more about COVID-19 vaccinations and TRS-ActiveCare coverage [here](#).

Sincerely,

The TRS-ActiveCare Team

www.bcbstx.com/trsactivecareba

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CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-855-710-6984 (TTY: 711).

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