



COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION  
OF OTSEGO  
COUNTY

## Tips and Links for Finding a Vaccine Appointment

Good news! It is easier than ever before to get a COVID vaccination in Otsego County.

The opening of the SUNY Oneonta State Vaccination site is a great help to people in Otsego County and the region. As of March 20, 27% of Otsego County residents have had at least one dose of vaccine.

This document can help you find an appointment for yourself or help you find an appointment for someone else. The Community Foundation of Otsego County put together this information based on the experience of Dr. Richard Sternberg and other healthcare providers and volunteers who have been assisting people obtain vaccine appointments.

### **Transportation is available**

Lack of transportation should not keep you from getting an appointment. GetThere and the Office of the Aging both can help you get a ride to and from a vaccine appointment. More details on getting a ride to a vaccine appointment are included below.

### **What information do you need to make an appointment?**

- Name, address, zip code
- Date of birth
- If you live or work in New York State
- Phone number and email
- Insurance information
- If younger than 60, information on eligibility (because of a medical condition or occupation). As eligibility for vaccines are expanded regularly, see the New York State website to see who is [currently eligible](#).

- You will also need to answer some health questions. The end of this document takes you step by step through the New York State registration process in case you want to review it before you schedule your appointment.

**New York State:** <https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>

The New York State mass vaccination site in Otsego County is at SUNY Oneonta at the Alumni Field House, 108 Ravine Parkway, in Oneonta. Other big sites are at SUNY Poly in Utica, SUNY Albany, and SUNY Binghamton. These State-run sites can vaccinate anyone who is [currently eligible](#).

### **Make an Appointment by Phone**

Appointments can be scheduled by calling the **New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Hotline** at 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829). The week of March 15, callers were connected to a live person within 2 minutes. There is an option that gives priority to callers who are 75 or older. There are also options to speak with people in Spanish and other languages. On average, it takes about eight minutes to sign up for an appointment by phone.

### **Make an Appointment Online**

<https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>

Since the site at SUNY Oneonta can give up to 1000 vaccines a day, there is a lot of availability. Going to the SUNY Oneonta site, which has appointments seven days a week from 8:00 am to 6:15 pm, will be convenient to most Otsego County residents.

You can also get the vaccine at the following retail pharmacies and at clinics scheduled by Bassett Healthcare Network and the Otsego County Department of Health.

- **Bassett Healthcare Network**

<https://www.bassett.org/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine>

- Updates will be posted as clinics become available
- **You can also sign up for the Bassett Stand By List**  
The Stand By list is not a guarantee of a call back or an appointment, but a way for Bassett to maintain a centralized list of people who want the vaccine. Look for the Stand By List sign up on <https://www.bassett.org/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine>
- Even if you are on the Stand By List, keep trying to get an appointment on your own.

- Bassett also has information about COVID-19 and COVID vaccines, answering [frequently asked questions](#).
- **FoxCare Pharmacy in Oneonta**
  - Eligible individuals include those age 60 and older, those with qualifying health conditions, school employees, and those who are staff members at childcare facilities. Learn more and register at <https://www.bassett.org/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine>.
- **Otsego County Department of Health** <https://www.otsegocounty.com/.../covid-19-vaccination...>
  - The Department of Health can now vaccinate anyone who is eligible.
  - Vaccination clinics will be listed if any are available.
  - You can download the free app “Otsego County Department of Health” from an app store and be notified when clinics are available. Works for both Apple and Android.
  - They are also coordinating home visits for homebound individuals: email them at [covidvaccine@otsegocounty.com](mailto:covidvaccine@otsegocounty.com), include name, physical address, and phone number. If you do not have email and want to arrange a homebound visit, call the Office for the Aging, 607/547-4232. This is for Otsego County residents.
- **Otsego County Office for the Aging** 607/547-4232  
[https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/office\\_for\\_the\\_aging/index.php](https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/office_for_the_aging/index.php)
  - **Staff can assist any Otsego County resident who does not have internet access or who would like help scheduling a vaccine appointment. Call 607/547-4232.**
  - They can provide transportation to local vaccine clinics for residents 60+.

## RETAIL PHARMACIES

As of March 17, retail pharmacies can vaccinate people 60+, Preschool-12<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and staff, and childcare workers.

- **Kinney Drug**  
<https://www.kinneydrugs.com/pharmacy/covid-19/vaccination-scheduling/ny/>
  - As of March 17, Kinney website says in addition to the list above they can [vaccinate people 18+ with certain medical conditions](#).
  - Sign up for text or email alerts to be notified when appointments are available near your zip code. <https://secure.kinneydrugs.com/>

- There is a Kinney Drug in Richfield Springs at 10 Main Street.
- Those without computer access, can call 315/858-3229 and press option 7. Attendant will ask for name and check to see if any appointments are available at local pharmacies.
- **CVS**  
<https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine...>
  - The closest CVS stores are in Cooperstown, Little Falls, Clinton, Margaretville, Walton, and Cobleskill. New stores are added on a regular basis.
- **Rite Aid**  
<https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/covid-qualifier>
  - There are two Rite Aid stores in Oneonta.
- **Walgreens**  
<https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19...>
  - You need to create a Walgreens account to schedule an appointment. They post new appointments promptly at **12 am** and **7 am**. The website works best using Google Chrome.
  - There are Walgreens in Oneonta and Sidney.
  - If you are helping someone else register, you will need their Walgreens account information or help them set one up. Notifications go to the email address, which you or the person you are helping need access to.

### Vaccine Finder

<https://vaccinefinder.org/>

- This federally backed website allows you to search for vaccine appointments near you.
- This site also lists pharmacies that do not yet have vaccines but will in the near future, such as Hannaford, Walmart, Browns Pharmacy (Unadilla), Church and Scott (Cooperstown).
- If you are eligible, it is recommended that you get the vaccine as soon as possible, so you may want to get an appointment now at [the SUNY Oneonta site](#) instead of waiting on a retail pharmacy to open.

### General Tips

- As of March 20, there were appointments open daily at SUNY Oneonta.

- The vaccine is available at no charge to you, whether or not you have health insurance.
- If you are having trouble, ask a friend or family member to help you. You can also call the Otsego County Office of the Aging for assistance, 607/547-4232. There are also community volunteers that can help you.
- Once you have a vaccine appointment, you may want to ask family members, friends, and neighbors if they would like help scheduling an appointment.
- **Want more information?** The New York State Department of Health has detailed information on eligibility, distribution, vaccine safety, and stopping the spread of COVID-19. In addition to English, they also have information written in Spanish, Korean, Russian, Chinese, Bengali, and Haitian Creole.  
<https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/frequently-asked-questions-0>

### **Rescheduling and Cancelling New York State Appointments**

- Once you have a confirmed appointment, you may check back for a closer location or earlier appointment.
- If you secure a more desired appointment, cancel the previous appointment using the link in your confirmation email or text. If the appointment you want to cancel is at SUNY Oneonta or another state-run site, you can call the Hotline 1-833-697-4829 to cancel.
- It is important to cancel any unwanted appointments, so others can be helped.

### **Do you need transportation to a COVID vaccination?**

Lack of transportation should not keep you from getting a COVID vaccine. There are resources to provide you with a free, safe, and comfortable ride.

#### **GetThere**

Anyone who lives in Otsego County, can contact GetThere to arrange transportation to and from a vaccine appointment. Their call center 855/373-4040 is open Monday-Friday, 7am-7 pm to schedule your ride. GetThere, a program of the Rural Health Network of South Central New York, also is available to people who live in Broome, Chenango, Delaware or Tioga counties. <https://gettherescny.org>

#### **Otsego County Office of the Aging**

Otsego County residents who are 60+ can call the Otsego County Office of the Aging to arrange for a ride to local vaccine appointments, including SUNY Oneonta. Call 607/547-4232.

[https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/office\\_for\\_the\\_aging/index.php](https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/office_for_the_aging/index.php)

### **OPT (Oneonta Public Transit) and the City of Oneonta**

OPT will offering free round trip bus rides to those with proof of a vaccine appointment at the SUNY Oneonta Vaccination Site. This offer includes all normal routes and riders will be dropped off and picked up at the Fine Arts stop at SUNY Oneonta. Schedule information at [www.optrides.com](http://www.optrides.com).

### **MAS**

Otsego County Medicaid beneficiaries can call 1/866-333-1030 to arrange a ride to an appointment. More information

<https://www.medanswering.com/locations/nys/flny/otsego/>

## Step-by-Step Information You Will Need to Register for an Appointment at a New York State-run Site (Like SUNY Oneonta) Updated 3/20/21

Go to <https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/> and click "Get Started."

- Fill in the following:
  - Date of Birth
  - Sex
  - Do you live in the State of New York? yes/no
  - Do you work in the State of New York? yes/no
  - Zip Code of Residency
  - If you are younger than 60, the form will ask you questions about your [medical conditions](#) or occupation to determine your eligibility
  - Read the acknowledgement and check "I consent"
  - Click on "Submit"
- Click on "Locate Providers"
- New York State sites will be listed, based on how close they are to your zip code. Look for the location you want to schedule the appointment and click on "Schedule your vaccine appointment."
- Select the date you want the appointment. Earliest dates are listed first. Click on "Select Visit Time"
  - Click on the circle under "Select Time" for the appointment time that you want. Click "Next"
    - If no time appears under "Available Appointments," go back to the previous page (may be open in another tab) and pick another date.
    - A pop-up box will note that you are also scheduling for a second vaccine appointment and you need to confirm you can make that date as well.
    - Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Next"
- Once you have the date and time you want, fill in only required information, skip "optional" fields, as it will get you through more quickly and you are more likely to get that open appointment.
  - First Name, Last Name, Address, County
  - Phone number (there is a check box to note if it is a mobile phone and another check box to note if you want to receive text notifications)
  - Email address (required)
  - Date of Birth. Click "Next"
  - Race/Ethnicity (You may choose "no response" or "unknown" but you have to choose something). Click "Next"
  - What method of transportation will you use to get to the site?

- Personally owned vehicle
- Public transit
- Rideshare
- Walk/Bike
- Will you need handicap access to the building? yes/no
- Do you need language assistance? yes/no Click “Next”)
- Emergency Contact Information (this is optional. So fill in or click “Next”
- Do you have insurance?
  - if YES select “Commercial Insurance, Medicaid or Medicare”
    - If Commercial, you will need insurance company name, Insurance ID #, state the insurance company is based, and name of the person who is the subscriber (could be self, spouse, etc.) and the subscriber’s birthdate.
    - If Medicaid, you will need Insurance Name, Medicaid CIN, Medicaid ID (if different than Medicaid CIN), the Primary Subscriber (self, spouse)
    - If Medicare, you will need Insurance Name, Insurance ID, Insurance Company State, Primary Subscriber Name and Date of Birth (could be self, spouse, etc.)
  - If NO
    - Check the box to confirm the person is uninsured. **(Please note: All people will be vaccinated for free whether or not they have insurance)**
- The person being vaccinated can receive the Notice of Privacy Practices by email or get the Notice of Privacy Practices when they go for their appointment, which will take a little more time at check in.
- Click “Next”
- Emergency Contact Information (optional)
- Are you under the age of 16? Under 18 needs mother’s maiden name
- Your primary care doctor (optional)

For the following questions, you can answer “Yes, No, or Unknown”

- Are you feeling sick today?
- In the last 10 days have you had a Covid test or are you isolating or quarantining due to COVID-19 infection, exposure, or travel?

- Have you been treated with antibody therapy or convalescent plasma for COVID-19 in the past three months? (This is a medical treatment provided to some people with COVID-19)
- Have you ever had an immediate allergic reaction to any vaccine injection or shot or a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to anything?
- Have you had any vaccines in the past two weeks including the flu shot?
- Are you pregnant or considering it?
- Do you have a bleeding disorder are you currently taking a blood thinner?
- Do you have cancer or leukemia or AIDS or a history of auto immune disease or any other condition that can weaken immune system?
- Do you take any medication that affects your immune system such as cortisone, prednisone or other steroids, anticancer drugs, or have you had any radiation treatments?
- Have you ever received the Covid vaccine?

#### NYS COVID Vaccine Certification Eligibility

- I certify that I am eligible for COVID-19 vaccination (There is a link to the eligibility list to confirm if needed) click "Next"
- If you want the appointment click on "I will attend the event"
- Proceed as directed

#### **Updates/Corrections**

If you have updates or corrections to this document, please email Peg Odell at the Community Foundation of Otsego County [pegodell@cfotsego.org](mailto:pegodell@cfotsego.org).

This document as well as future updates will be posted to the Community Foundation of Otsego County website [www.cfotsego.org](http://www.cfotsego.org)