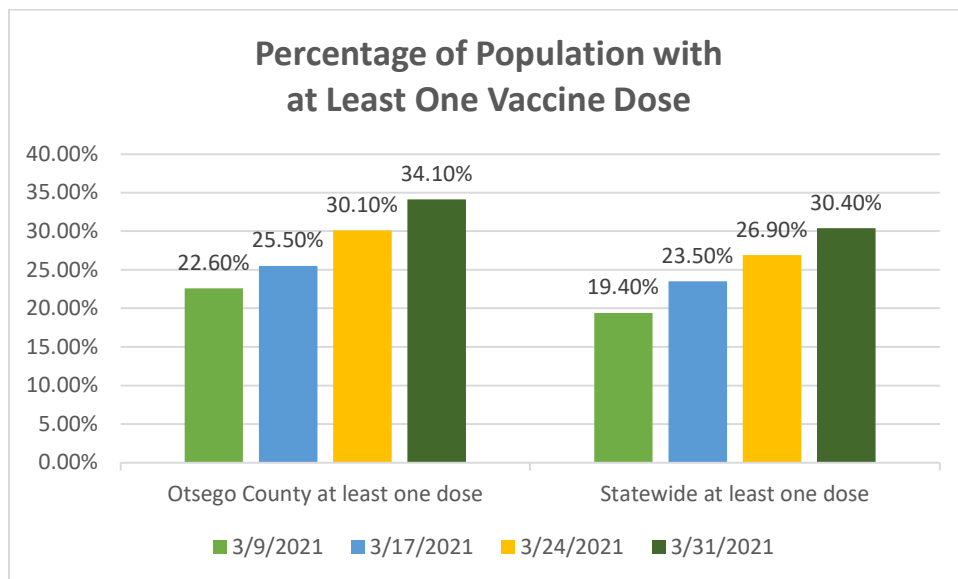




COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
OF OTSEGO
COUNTY

TIPS AND LINKS FOR FINDING A VACCINE APPOINTMENT

It is easier than ever before to get a COVID vaccination in Otsego County. The opening of the SUNY Oneonta State Vaccination site is great for the region and is already having an impact (see chart). **All New Yorkers 30 and older are now eligible to schedule and receive COVID-19 vaccines.** And, starting Tuesday, April 6 at 8am, all New Yorkers age 16+ will be eligible. Vaccines are provided free of charge, even if you do not have insurance.



With this guide, you can find out:

- **How to check your eligibility and schedule an appointment at SUNY Oneonta** page 2
- **Information you need to make an appointment** page 2
- **How to get a vaccine appointment at a pharmacy or clinic** page 3
- **How to get a ride to a vaccine appointment** page 5
- **Additional information, including how to cancel an appointment** page 6
- **Step-by-step information needed to register online for an appointment at SUNY Oneonta** page 7

HOW TO CHECK YOUR ELIGIBILITY AND SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT AT SUNY ONEONTA OR ANOTHER STATE-RUN SITE www.ny.gov/vaccine

The New York State mass vaccination site in Otsego County is at SUNY Oneonta at the Alumni Field House, 108 Ravine Parkway, in Oneonta. The site can provide up to 1000 vaccines a day. Appointments are offered seven days a week from 8:00 am to 6:15 pm. Other State-run sites are at SUNY Poly in Utica, SUNY Albany, and SUNY Binghamton. They can vaccinate anyone who is currently eligible. (See list at <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/phased-distribution-vaccine>)

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT ONLINE

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

Check if you are eligible and schedule an appointment online. Details on the information you will need are noted below.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT BY PHONE

Check your eligibility and schedule your appointment by calling the **New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Hotline** at 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829).

- Callers have found that they are connected to a live person within 2 minutes.
- There is an option that gives priority to callers who are 75 or older.
- There are 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.

INFORMATION 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 you are younger than 30, you will need information on eligibility (because of a medical condition or occupation)
- 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.

HOW TO GET A VACCINE APPOINTMENT AT A PHARMACY OR CLINIC

You can also get a COVID vaccine at the following retail pharmacies and at clinics scheduled by the 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>
 - Bassett also has information about COVID-19 and COVID vaccines, answering frequently asked questions.

- **FOXCARE PHARMACY IN ONEONTA**
 - When they are offering appointments, clinics will be listed 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 on their website 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.
 - The Department of Health is coordinating home visits for homebound individuals: email them at 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 service 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
 - **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 30, retail pharmacies can vaccinate:

- **anyone 30+**,
 - people 16+ with certain medical conditions, and
 - Preschool-12th grade school faculty & staff, childcare workers, doctors, nurses, healthcare workers, first responders, public transit workers, grocery store workers, and public safety workers.
 - Eligibility is determined by the state and expanded often.
- **KINNEY DRUG**
<https://www.kinneydrugs.com/pharmacy/covid-19/vaccination-scheduling/ny/>
 - 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...>
 - CVS stores offering vaccine appointments include: Cooperstown, Little Falls, Clinton, Margaretville, Walton, and Cobleskill.
 - **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>
 - 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.

HOW TO GET A ROUND-TRIP RIDE TO A COVID VACCINATION FOR THOSE IN NEED

If you cannot get to a vaccine appointment on your own, or with the help of a friend or family member, there are resources available 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. Once you have an appointment scheduled, call 1-855/373-4040 to schedule your ride. The call center is open Monday-Friday, 7am – 7pm. 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. Please note no referral is needed for this service other than proof of appointment. <https://gettherescny.org>

OPT (ONEONTA PUBLIC TRANSIT) AND THE CITY OF ONEONTA

- OPT is 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. Riders must provide proof of appointment to the driver (drivers will not keep or copy the confirmation) for this free service. Those that qualify for paratransit should call and schedule their ride with dispatch as normal. For questions about OPT rides, call 607/432-7100.

OTSEGO COUNTY OFFICE OF THE AGING AND NY CONNECTS

- Otsego County residents who are 60+ can call the Otsego County Office of the Aging to arrange for a ride to local vaccine appointments. Call 607/547-4232. https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/office_for_the_aging/index.php

MAS

Otsego County Medicaid beneficiaries can call 1-866/333-1030 to arrange a ride to an appointment. <https://www.medanswering.com/locations/nys/flnny/otsego/>

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 get a better 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 also cancel by calling the Hotline 1-833-697-4829.
- It is important to cancel any unwanted appointments, so others can be helped.
- If you have already received one dose of a vaccine, you should go to the same place to receive your second dose.

MORE INFORMATION

- Reports from people who have received their vaccine at SUNY Oneonta are very positive. There is a lot of signage to guide you to the site. Members of the National Guard are there to direct you to the right place and answer questions. Everyone is friendly and helpful, and it is very efficient.
- People who have received vaccines at local pharmacies and clinics have said the experience was straight-forward and people were helpful and friendly there too.
- As of April 1, you could get an appointment in April at SUNY Oneonta.
- 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.
- 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. <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/frequently-asked-questions-0>
- In addition to English, the New York State Department of Health website has information written in Spanish, Korean, Russian, Chinese, Bengali, and Haitian Creole. <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/frequently-asked-questions-0>
- Vaccine Finder <https://vaccinefinder.org/> allows you to search for vaccine appointments near you. This site also lists pharmacies that do not yet have vaccines but may in the near future. 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 or a local pharmacy (Kinney, RiteAid, CVS, Walgreens) that has appointments.

STEP-BY-STEP INFORMATION NEEDED TO REGISTER FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT SUNY ONEONTA OR ANOTHER STATE-RUN SITE (as of 3/24)

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
 - 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.
 - Due to cancellations, new appointment times and dates open up throughout the day.
 - Even if the status for the site you want says “No Appointments Available Currently” you can still click on “Schedule your vaccine appointment.” Though most times it will take you to a page that says “No appointments available” sometimes you will find a date.
- 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 the person wants 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
- If under 30 do you have underlying condition yes/no?
- Will you need handicap access to the building? yes/no
- Do you need language assistance? yes/no 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 to confirm the person is uninsured.
- 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 antibiotic therapy or convalescent plasma for COVID-19 in the past three months?
- Have you ever had an immediate allergic reaction to any vaccine injection or shot or a severe allergic reaction to anything?
- Have you had any vaccine 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 or anticancer drugs?
- 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

The Community Foundation of Otsego County put together this guide based on the experience of Dr. Richard Sternberg and others who have been helping people get vaccine appointments.

The chart on the first page of this guide was developed with data from the New York State Vaccine Tracker <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/covid-19-vaccine-tracker>. As of 3/31, the percentage of New Yorkers who have at least one vaccine dose ranges by county from a low of 22.3% in the Bronx to a high of 57.5% in Hamilton County.

UPDATES/CORRECTIONS

If you have updates or corrections to this guide, please email Peg Odell at the Community Foundation of Otsego County pegodell@cfotsego.org. We appreciate your feedback. Thank you.

We update this guide on a regular basis and also post the guide on the CFOC website, <https://cfotsego.org/>.