

# COVID-19 Vaccines and Kids: What can you do to help?



Talk to teens and parents in your community about the importance of getting vaccinated by sharing your experience and helping to bust the myths.

**✗ MYTH!** The vaccines don't work. Vaccinated people are still getting COVID-19.

**✓ FACT:** Breakthrough cases have occurred in people who are fully vaccinated. Those cases have been far milder than COVID-19 in unvaccinated people. The vaccines reduce your risk of getting seriously ill, being put on a ventilator in the hospital, or even death.

**✗ MYTH!** The COVID-19 vaccine is not safe for children.

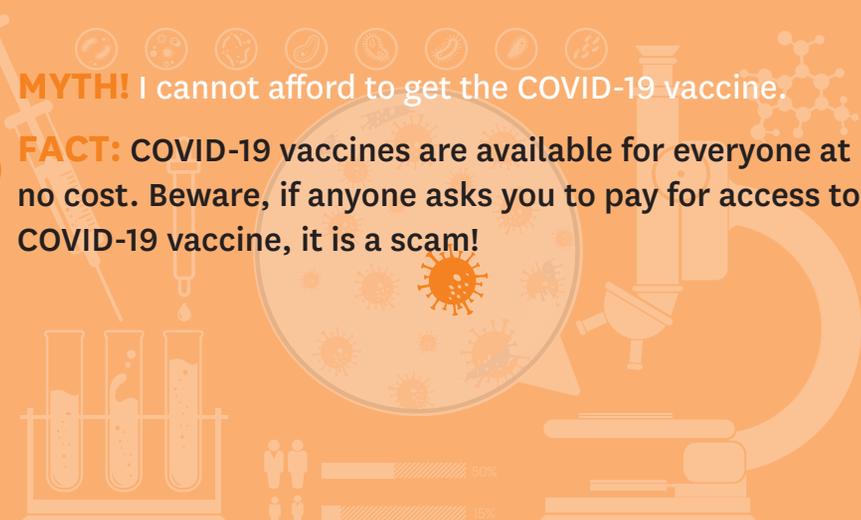
**✓ FACT:** The FDA has approved the Pfizer vaccine for emergency use for children ages 12-15 and it is fully approved for those who are 16 years of age and older. The CDC also recommends everyone 12 years and older should get a COVID-19 vaccination to help protect against the virus.

**✗ MYTH!** The COVID-19 vaccine is an experimental drug. It is not safe.

**✓ FACT:** All COVID-19 vaccines were tested in large clinical trials and approved for emergency use by top medical experts and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Most recently, the FDA fully approved the Pfizer vaccine for use in those ages 16 and older.

**✗ MYTH!** I cannot afford to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

**✓ FACT:** COVID-19 vaccines are available for everyone at no cost. Beware, if anyone asks you to pay for access to a COVID-19 vaccine, it is a scam!



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## Break the Cycle of Minority Hesitancy

“Vaccine hesitancy spans all groups but is particularly prevalent in Black, Hispanic and other minority populations due to historic mistrust and inequities in access to healthcare. With so many essential workers belonging to these communities, they are at increased risk of exposure to COVID-19. It is critical that these groups get COVID-19 vaccinations to protect themselves and their loved ones.”

—**Moses Allen**, Vice President of Pharmacy, Sunshine Health

✗ **MYTH!** The vaccine can make me sick with COVID-19.

✓ **FACT:** None of the authorized COVID-19 vaccines in the United States contain the live virus. A COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19. The vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight COVID-19.

✗ **MYTH!** I already had COVID-19, so I don't need the vaccine.

✓ **FACT:** Even if you've already had COVID-19, you can get the virus again. The COVID-19 vaccines reduce the risk of you getting sick with the virus again and the risk of spreading it to those around you!

## Protecting Unvaccinated Family Members and Children Under Age 12

The best ways to protect unvaccinated family members and children are:

1. Get the COVID-19 vaccine yourself.
2. Get those who are 12 and older vaccinated. Pfizer vaccine is approved for emergency use for children ages 12-15 and it is fully approved for everyone 16 years of age and older.
3. EVERYONE should wear a mask. The mask can help maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possible spreading it to others. However, do NOT put a mask on a child younger than 2 years old.

