



# Yakima Health District

## Media Release

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### **Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Expanded to Everyone 12 Years and Older**

**YAKIMA, WA-** Yesterday, the Washington State Department of Health announced that it would expand COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to individuals 12 to 15 years of age. Previously, the Food and Drug Administration had authorized the use of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 12 to 15. Following this authorization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Western States Scientific Safety Workgroup recommended that the Pfizer vaccine be made available to this age group immediately.

Yakima County vaccination sites will be able to vaccinate individuals 12 years and older beginning today, May 13, 2021. Anyone under 18 who is not emancipated requires consent from a parent or guardian to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Individuals who are legally emancipated must provide proof of emancipation.

Individuals seeking vaccination can access the Community Vaccination Center at the Yakima State Fair Park or mobile vaccine locations throughout Yakima County. For a list of additional vaccine locations, individuals are encouraged to visit [YakimaVaccines.org](https://YakimaVaccines.org). Transportation assistance is also available to vaccine sites by calling **833-VAX-HELP** or **833-829-4357**.

### **Quote**

"We are excited to have a vaccine available for both children and adults. While children are less likely to experience severe COVID-19, they can still get infected with the virus and spread it to others. Vaccinating this age group will also allow us to vaccinate more members of our community and get closer to achieving the community immunity we need to keep our community safe." - Dr. Larry Jecha, Interim Health Officer, Yakima Health District

### **Additional Information:**

[Community Vaccination Center](#)

[PrepMod- To Schedule an Appointment](#)

[Mobile Vaccine Locations](#)

[Washington State Department of Health News Release](#)

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