



# FAQ: ACCELERATED 2ND DOSES JUNE 26 & 28

## WHAT IS CHANGING?

Beginning **Saturday, June 26 at 8 am**, 12-17 year olds in Durham, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Porcupine, Simcoe-Muskoka, Toronto, Waterloo, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph and York public health units will be eligible for a reduced dosage interval and can book their second doses in the provincial portal.

On **Monday, June 28 at 8 am**, all Ontarians 18 and over can book their accelerated second doses in the provincial portal using the manufacturer minimum intervals below.

While we expect the remaining cohort of youth to become eligible for accelerated doses soon, at this time they are still on the extended dosage interval.

Please wait for further information from your Provincial Health Unit (PHU) if it doesn't use the provincial booking site.

Pharmacies, hospital clinics and pop up clinics may or may not follow the same schedule.

## WHAT'S THE TIMELINE AND WHEN CAN I BOOK?

If you fall within the new eligibility, you will be able to book on Saturday, June 26 and Monday, June 28 respectively via the provincial portal or through a pharmacy, provided the pharmacy has updated its stated eligibility.

At this time, the 2nd dose timeline for the remaining 12-17 year olds has not been confirmed. For youth not included in this update, we expect second dose eligibility to become available soon, and all youth will be eligible for manufacturer minimum intervals in the provincial portal beginning no later than August

Once you are eligible to book, you will remain eligible to access the system (including to reschedule your appointment) going forward.

## WHY AM I NOT ALLOWED TO BOOK A YOUTH AT CERTAIN CLINICS?

Final approval of the Moderna vaccine for youth is pending, but not yet finalized. At this time, youth 12-17 can only receive Pfizer vaccines and will not have access to sites administering Moderna. Within the portal, sites administering Moderna are marked as **ADULTS 18+ ONLY**. Youth should not book at these sites even if they are admitted into the portal as an eligible population.

## DOSE INTERVALS

The current minimum dose intervals for adults, based on what you received for your first dose, are as follows:

- Moderna/Pfizer: 28 days
- AstraZeneca: 56 days
- Youth on Accelerated Dose Interval: 28 days
- Youth on original interval: 112 days

## CAN I BOOK NOW FOR A DATE WHEN I BECOME ELIGIBLE?

No, you need to wait for eligibility to open up to your cohort in order to book your accelerated second dose.

## CAN I MIX PFIZER AND MODERNA?

At this time, adults are encouraged to treat our two mRNA-type vaccines as interchangeable. Until Moderna is approved for youth, those 12-17 should only receive the Pfizer vaccine. NACI has confirmed that a mixed vaccine schedule can be completed safely and is effective. To ensure maximum protection against COVID-19 and the Delta variant, Ontarians are encouraged to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

## WHERE CAN I BOOK?

We expect booking to be available through a number of options, similar to first doses but adapted for our much larger current supply of vaccines.

For public health units using the provincial system, including mixed systems, the provincial portal will be available to book second dose appointments regardless of where you received your first dose at:

**covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine** OR by phone by calling the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line at **1-833-943-3900**

(TTY for people who are deaf, hearing-impaired or speech-impaired: **1-866-797-0007**)

The following public health units **DO NOT** have access to the provincial booking system and residents will need to find further information from their PHU:

Algoma | Brant County | Chatham-Kent | Durham Region | Halton Region | Huron Perth | Lambton | Middlesex-London / Southwestern | Porcupine | Renfrew County | Region of Waterloo | Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph | Windsor Essex

Pharmacies and some family doctors should have doses available.

In some cases, hospital, mobile, and pop-up clinics will begin to open second-dose availability. Please pay careful attention to eligibility at these clinics, as not all will be administering second doses.

## CAN I RECEIVE MY SECOND DOSE AT A DIFFERENT CLINIC / PHARMACY THAN MY FIRST?

Yes. You will be able to book at any provincial mass vaccination site (availability pending), and we anticipate pharmacies will also have flexible booking requirements. However, we anticipate that it is likely that hospital clinics will only accept those who received their first dose from them.

## I HAVE RE-BOOKED MY APPOINTMENT - DO I NEED TO DO ANYTHING WITH MY OLD BOOKING?

If your original second dose was booked through the provincial portal, it will be automatically canceled if you book your new appointment through the provincial system. Similarly, if you had an original second dose booking at a hospital and re-booked at the same hospital, you will not need to do anything further.

However, if your original booking and your new booking have been made through different booking systems (provincial vs hospital vs pharmacy), be sure to cancel the original booking.

## WHAT IF I HAVE A RED & WHITE HEALTH CARD?

You will have to book via call centre.

## I GOT MY FIRST DOSE AT A POP-UP. HOW DO I BOOK MY SECOND DOSE?

At this time, everyone in a public health unit that uses the provincial system **and who provided an OHIP number at check-in for their first dose** can access their records and book a second dose appointment beginning at their eligible interval (12 or 16 weeks). The clinic or hospital that coordinated your first dose may have additional options for you.

The provincial portal will check the COVaxON vaccine record system to confirm your age, the date of your first dose, and any information about a pre-existing second dose appointment. Pharmacies will also have access to this system.

If you did not use your OHIP number to check in at your first dose appointment and you have one, please contact the "authorized organization" listed on your Dose Receipt to get your vaccine record matched to your OHIP record. If you do not have OHIP, please follow the steps below.

## I DON'T HAVE A HEALTH (OHIP) CARD — HOW DO I ACCESS THE PROVINCIAL BOOKING SYSTEM?

One route to get your second dose would be to check for pharmacies, hospital clinics, pop ups and primary care providers with availability as they do not require an OHIP.

If you are **NOT** eligible for OHIP, you can also call your local Public Health Unit (PHU) (look up at **www.phdapps.health.gov.on.ca/phulocator/**), who will either issue you a booking number that you can use in order to book via the provincial call centre, or take your information and inform you of the process.

If you're eligible for OHIP, you can go in and apply in person at ServiceOntario (please book an appointment). See **www.ontario.ca/page/apply-ohip-and-get-health-card** for more information. You will then need to contact the "authorized organization" listed on your Dose Receipt to get your vaccine record matched to your OHIP record. Once that is complete, you will be able to use the health card number given to you to book via call centre (you will **NOT** be able to book via website without a physical OHIP card).