



Reasonable Accommodations for People with Disabilities During the COVID-19 Vaccination Process

What is the COVID-19 vaccination process?

When we talk about the “COVID-19 vaccination process” we mean going through all of the steps to get a COVID-19 shot. It includes things like:

- getting information about the vaccine that you can understand,
- scheduling an appointment to get the vaccine,
- getting into the place where the vaccine is given,
- following all the directions at the place you go for your shot, and
- understanding what to expect after you get the shot.

What are my rights as a person with a disability?

As a person with a disability, you have a right to “reasonable accommodations” during the COVID-19 vaccination process. This means you have the right to ask for support, technology, and help you may need to get a vaccine.

Some vaccination sites may already have the type of support you need. Other vaccination sites may need to make changes so you can get your vaccine.

What are examples of reasonable accommodations?

Here are examples of reasonable accommodations you might need because of your disability:

Setting up an appointment:

- Helping you schedule a time to get a COVID-19 shot.
- Giving you a longer appointment time if you need breaks, extra time to ask questions, or extra time for other reasons.
- Scheduling your appointment at a time when the vaccination site is quieter and less crowded.
- Completing paperwork before the appointment or having a support person sign for them.

While you are at the vaccination site:

- Accessible parking for people who need it.
- Building entrances, rooms, and bathrooms that people in wheelchairs can use.
- Providing a wheelchair or chair for sitting.
- Letting you bring a support person with you.
- Providing a sign language interpreter.
- Reading information to you.
- Providing information or signs in ways you can understand, like:
 - braille
 - videos with captions
 - large print
 - easy-read versions
 - pictures
 - materials that can be read by a screen reader.
- Helping you get around the vaccination site. Helping you get through all the steps to get a vaccine.
- Clear step-by-step instructions, both verbal and written.
- Clear masks worn by staff if you read lips or need to see people's faces to understand what they are saying.

- Giving you space away from other people if you are immunocompromised. This means you have a hard time fighting disease.
- Letting you come in without a mask if you cannot wear one because of a medical condition.
- Having a private room with a cot.
- Having a quiet room.

Other things you may need:

- Sending someone to your home to give you the vaccine because you cannot get to a vaccination site.
- Other changes or supports you may need to get the vaccine.

How do I ask for an accommodation?

You can call or email the place you want to go to for your shot to ask for help.

See the next page for an example of how to ask for an accommodation:

Need help?

If you need help getting reasonable accommodations for your COVID-19 vaccination, contact Disability Rights Maryland:

Phone: 410-727-6352
Toll-free: 1-800-233-7201
TTY: 410-235-5387

Disability Rights Maryland is an organization that advocates for the rights of people with disabilities in Maryland. It is also known as DRM.

How to Ask for a Reasonable Accommodation for a Vaccine

“I am a person with a disability and want to get a COVID-19 vaccine at

[put the name of the place you want to go for the shot here].

Because of my disability, I need a reasonable accommodation. The accommodation I need is

[add the accommodation you need].

I need this reasonable accommodation because

[say why you need an accommodation to be able to get your shot at the site]

Please get back to me in the next five days. Thank you.”