



PHXCONNECT

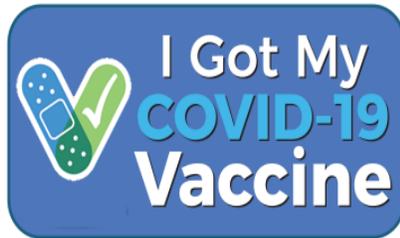
Weekly Newsletter for City of Phoenix Employees • Special COVID Relief Edition • May 19, 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



Thank you for all that you do for our community! Over the last year, we have been tested like never before. In the face of unprecedented challenges, while managing health and safety concerns for ourselves and our families, city of Phoenix employees have remained committed to doing the work that we are

called to do while continuing to provide seamless customer service to our community. While we are on the road to recovery, we are not out of the woods yet. One of the best ways we can fight together to bring the COVID-19 pandemic to a conclusion is by getting vaccinated. The city is working to make this as easy as possible for you and your family members. My family and I have been vaccinated, which has given us peace of mind to visit our aging parents, reconnect in person with friends and safely return to a



more normal life. I encourage each of you to get vaccinated and submit a copy of your completed vaccination card to receive your \$75 Vaccine Safety Award from the city. In this week's special issue of PHXConnect, you will read important statistics about how COVID-19 has impacted the city's workforce, find resources for getting the vaccination, and what you can expect before and after receiving the vaccine. You will also find answers to frequently asked questions about the vaccine as well as facts that dispel vaccine myths. If you need additional information, visit the [Employee Health Updates](#) page online or contact the city's HR Connection Center at 602-495-5700.

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

For City of Phoenix Employees

VACCINE ADMINISTERED AT EMPLOYEE DISPENSING SITE FOR EMPLOYEES AND HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS:



FIRST DOSE: **5,387**

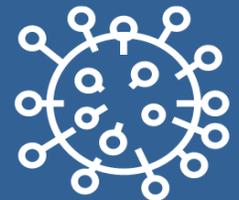
SECOND DOSE: **4,937**

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEE DEATHS REPORTED AS RELATED TO COVID-19:



14

TOTAL NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES:



2,736 (20.2% OF CITY EMPLOYEES)



MORE COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYEES:



CITY COUNCIL UPDATES FACE MASK POLICY

To comply with the May 16, 2021 CDC guidance, the City Council updated the city's face mask policy to no longer require **individuals who are fully vaccinated** to wear masks or social distance in public except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws and regulations, including local business and workplace requirements. The city's policy will be updated automatically in accordance with current CDC guidelines.



The city manager currently requires masks inside of all city facilities. Masks also will still be required at the airport and on public transportation. Businesses, government sites and workplaces will continue to decide how to implement their own mask requirements.

COVID-19 VACCINE FAQs

- ◆ Should I get the vaccine if I've already had COVID-19?
- ◆ Is the COVID-19 vaccine safe for kids?
- ◆ What if I have an underlying medical condition?
- ◆ Can pregnant women get the vaccine?
- ◆ Can I choose which vaccine I get?
- ◆ How long will COVID vaccine protection last?

Find the answers to these and other questions about the COVID-19 vaccine on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website's [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](#) webpage.

COVID VACCINE BENEFITS

Once you are fully vaccinated, you can start doing more...

- ◆ CDC guidance indicates that after you are fully vaccinated for COVID-19, you can resume some activities that you did prior to the pandemic.
- ◆ You can gather without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.
- ◆ If you travel in the United States, you do not need to get tested before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.

People are not considered fully vaccinated until two weeks after their second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, or two weeks after a single-dose Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. It is recommended that you keep using safety precautions **to protect yourself and others** until you are fully vaccinated.

For more information about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit [Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines at cdc.gov](#).

EMPLOYEE COVID VACCINE EXPERIENCES

Checkout the podcasts below to learn why some of your fellow employees chose to get the COVID-19 vaccination:

- ◆ Dr. Heather Ross, PhD, DNP, an assistant clinical professor at Arizona State University and health policy advisor to Mayor Kate Gallego, shares her experience on getting the COVID vaccine as a participant in the clinical trials, on the [Jan. 21, 2021 City Manager's Podcast](#).
- ◆ Listen to three employees share why they got vaccinated on the [Feb 9, 2021 City Manager's Podcast](#).

EMPLOYEE VACCINE APPOINTMENTS

Employee COVID-19 Vaccine dispensing site—Employee Driver Training Academy (EDTA), 3535 S. 35th Avenue:

Getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to end the pandemic and the city wants to make access to the COVID-19 vaccine as easy as possible. The city of Phoenix has a designated COVID-19 vaccine dispensing site for employees AND their household members 12 years and older. Banner Health is administering the vaccine at the site located near 35th Avenue south of Buckeye Road. At this time the site is dispensing the Pfizer COVID vaccine. Please note the type of vaccine being offered at the EDTA could change, depending on vaccine supply. Appointments are required. Visit the [COVID Vaccine Resources](#) webpage to schedule an appointment.

CITY VACCINE SAFETY AWARD

All city employees who take the COVID-19 vaccine in 2021 and submit a completed COVID vaccine card, showing the dates of all required doses are eligible for a Vaccine Safety Award of \$75. For more information on how to receive the incentive, visit [COVID Safety Awards Procedures online](#).

Lost Vaccine Card

If you've misplaced your COVID vaccine card, you may be able to view and print your vaccine record through the [Arizona Department of Health Services](#). Please note that it could take several weeks for the system to be updated with COVID vaccine records. For additional information about vaccine distribution or the Safety Award, please contact the HR Connection Center at 602-495-5700.

COVID TESTING

City of Phoenix employees can receive a COVID-19 test at the following locations:

- ◆ **City of Phoenix Employee Healthcare Clinic, 1 N. Central Ave.**, testing available to employees, regardless of health plan, weekdays from 7 a.m. - 5:40 p.m., by appointment only. Click on the [Banner Health Clinic Link](#) and select "COVID Virus Testing – City of Phoenix."
- ◆ **Washington Activity Center (WAC) Test Site, 2240 W. Citrus Way**, offers free Rapid COVID tests for employees and their household members from 7 a.m. - 3:50 p.m. on Thursdays. **Employees must call 602-534-0693** to schedule the tests for themselves and household members. This location is NOT a drive thru testing site.

COVID VACCINE MYTHS

MYTH #1:

The COVID-19 vaccine will change my DNA.

FACT #1: Both mRNA and viral vector authorized COVID-19 vaccines deliver instructions to our cells to start building protection against the COVID-19 virus. The material never enters the interior of your cells and cannot change your DNA.

MYTH #2:

The COVID-19 vaccine will give me COVID.

FACT #2: The vaccines do not contain a live virus and cannot give you COVID. It tricks your body into thinking it is fighting COVID, which can make you feel side effects like tiredness, headaches, fever or chills.

