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Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.

October 20, 2022  
**For Immediate Release**

## Health Department Now Offering Bivalent COVID-19 Booster for Children Ages 5 through 11 Years

**DuPage County** – Appointments are now available for a free bivalent (updated) COVID-19 booster for children ages 5 through 11 years through DuPage County Health Department (DCHD). Boosters are available as of Thursday, Oct. 20, 2022, by appointment only.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone ages 5 years and older get an updated booster if it has been at least two months since they completed their primary series or most recent booster vaccination.

These new boosters contain an updated bivalent formula that both boosts immunity against the original coronavirus strain and also protects against the newer Omicron variants that account for most of the current cases. Everyone benefits from updated COVID-19 boosters, including people who have had COVID-19 infection already and those already boosted. Boosters not only protect us but help protect those around us.

“Having the updated bivalent booster available for children ages 5 and older means we have another opportunity to protect this younger age group,” said Karen Ayala, Executive Director of DuPage County Health Department. “Making sure our kids are vaccinated and up to date can help them safely enjoy the school year and spend time with friends and family.”

DCHD continues to offer COVID-19 vaccines to individuals 6 months and older. To register for a vaccination appointment please visit [dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccine](https://dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccine) or call DCHD at (630) 682-7400. COVID-19 vaccinations will be administered at our Central Public Health Center in Wheaton.

Additional opportunities to get COVID-19 vaccines and boosters are available in and around DuPage County through pharmacies and other medical providers—visit [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov) to find a location near you.

Please bring your child’s vaccination card so your provider can add the booster dose. Children 17 years and younger must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

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