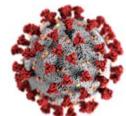


Butler Borough Health Department 973-838-7200, ext. 237

## New Jersey COVID-19 Updates:

 FDA approves Comirnaty (COVID-19 mRNA vaccine), previously known as Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, for prevention of COVID-19 disease in individuals 16 years of age and older. Please see the following link for more information: <u>Comirnaty</u> and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine | FDA.



- Quarantine and Isolation regulations can be found <u>here</u>.
- **COVID-19 third dose shots** are now available from Pfizer and Moderna for people who are <u>moderately to</u> <u>severely immunocompromised</u>. This includes those who: have been receiving active *cancer treatments* for tumors or cancers of the blood; have moderate or severe *primary immunodeficiency*; received an *organ transplant* and are taking medication that suppresses the immune system; have advanced or untreated *HIV infection;* received a *stem cell transplant* within the past two years or are taking immunosuppressive medication; and/or have active treatment with *high-dose corticosteroids* or drugs that may suppress immune response. *Individuals that received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine are not able to obtain a booster shot*.
- Face masks are strongly recommended for both vaccinated *and* unvaccinated people in indoor settings with heightened risk of COVID-19, including those attending gatherings, those in close contact with others who are not fully vaccinated or for whom vaccination status is unknown, and those indoors with a person who is immunocompromised or at increased risk of severe disease.
- **Docket app:** A <u>new app</u> is available from the NJ Department of Health, making it easier to securely access your COVID-19 vaccination record and provide proof of vaccination as necessary.
- School recommendations updated: The NJ Department of Health recently updated COVID-19 guidance for New Jersey schools, including the following:
  - All K-12 personnel to be fully vaccinated or to undergo testing a minimum of once to twice per week.
  - Students, staff and visitors are *required to wear face masks* inside school buildings and on buses.
  - Social distancing should be implemented, including 3' between students in classrooms.
  - *Cleaning/disinfecting* should be performed daily, particularly frequently touched surfaces.
  - For more information, see the <u>Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year</u>.
- **Pregnancy and the COVID-19 vaccines:** There is *no* evidence suggesting that fertility problems are a side effect of any COVID-19 vaccine. If you are pregnant, breastfeeding or planning a pregnancy, the COVID-19 vaccine is recommended. For more information: <u>COVID-19 Vaccines; Questions on Fertility</u>.
- **September is Suicide Prevention Month:** The COVID-19 pandemic can be linked to adverse mental health outcomes. Active outreach is necessary to reduce the likelihood of suicides during and after the pandemic.
  - American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is holding a virtual program "<u>Talk Saves Lives</u>," an introduction to Suicide Prevention and what people can do to help themselves and others.
  - Morris County Stigma Free Initiative presents "<u>My Perfect Life</u>." This is an event for anyone who wants a better understanding of depression, symptoms and how to help someone in need.