# Washington State Family to Family Health Information Center

## Newsletter #18 – August 2022

### COVID Vaccine Available to Children and Toddlers

The PAVE Family to Family Health Information Center knows that there is a lot of information out around vaccinations, boosters, and younger children. This is information to help families with gaining additional knowledge to with decisions for the health and safety for their family as school starts again.

In June, the CDC updated its vaccine recommendation to include children and toddlers, aged six months and older. The recommendation is for children and toddlers to receive either a two or three dose primary series of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID vaccine. [These dosages](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/children-teens.html) are lower than those for adults, and in the case of the case of children under five, are spread out more than the adult version, as to lower any chance of complications or adverse reactions. While adults are recommended to get booster doses of the vaccine, booster doses are only recommended for people 5 years and older.

## [August 2022 Calendar](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/calendar/)

All events are free and on-line

[Sexual Assault Awareness & Response: What Caregivers Need to Know](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/event/fathers-network-monthly-webinar/?instance_id=989) – Aug. 2

[Dads helping Dads](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZItdOihqj8pEtQrWmxsy2Kh4_-EI9jNiBim) – Aug. 11

[Sharing Down Syndrome in Pierce County](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/event/sharing-down-syndrome-in-pierce-county-parents-night-in/?instance_id=236) – Aug. 12

[Cerebral Palsy Caregiver Support Group](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/event/cerebral-palsy-caregiver-support-group-2/?instance_id=831) – Aug. 15

[Pediatric Advance Care Planning](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/event/conversations-matter-pediatric-advance-care-planning-pacp-and-shared-decision-making-with-adolescents-living-with-a-serious-illness/?instance_id=1017) – Aug. 18

[WA State Sibling Connection](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/event/wa-state-sibling-connection/?instance_id=951) – Aug. 18

[Relatives as Parents Program](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/event/family-support-relatives-as-parents-program/?instance_id=972) – Aug. 23

[Familias Resilientes](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/event/familias-resilientes/?instance_id=663) – Aug. 23

[Policy Summer School](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/event/policy-summer-school/?instance_id=1013) – Aug. 25

[Thriving on Two Spectrums](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/event/thriving-on-two-spectrums-2022/?instance_id=964) – Aug. 28

Vaccinations for children and toddlers are free-of-charge, as they are for adults. For those with health insurance, the person who administers the vaccine may bill them to get reimbursed for the vaccine administration fee. For those without insurance, the federal government offers a program that will pay the provider to administer the vaccination. For vaccination locations, visit the Washington Department of Health [Vaccine Locator](https://vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov/). For more information, Call the Washington DoH Vaccine hotline at 1-833-VAX-HELP (833-829-4357), then press #.

### Understanding the Medicaid Basic Plus Waiver

There are several Medicaid waivers available to Washingtonians, and these allow certain Medicaid recipients the ability to receive services not available through traditional hospital and long-term care facilities. One of these is the Basic Plus waiver, which is administered through the [Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA](https://www.dshs.wa.gov/dda)).

The waiver provides for many useful services and programs for individuals who have developmental disabilities of all ages. They include supported employment services, respite services, occupational and physical therapies, transportation services, transportation, behavioral supports, and some goods and services. It is possible to review the [Basic Plus brochure](https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/documents/22-1754.pdf) for a full list of services.

To be eligible for this program, individuals must be DDA eligible client and have resources of less than $2,000 or be in the Apple Health for Workers with Disabilities (HWD) program. To apply, contact your local DDA office. DDA Offices are located within Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and can be found on their [Office Locator](https://www.dshs.wa.gov/office-locations). For help with filing, call the DSHS Community Services Customer Service Contact Center at 877-501-2233. The process for this and other waivers can take months, even years, but once eligibility is established, it lasts for a lifetime. Therefore, signing up for a waiver early is key. For more information on Medicaid Waivers, visit the [F2F Medicaid Waiver page](https://www.familyvoicesofwashington.org/medical/medicaid-waivers/).