

The Center Volunteer Vaccination Policy – FAQs

The health and safety of our community and The Center staff and volunteers are our top priority. Please take a moment to read our most current health and safety guidelines for volunteers.

To help prevent the infection and spread of COVID-19, The Center requires that all volunteers who report to Center sites and facilities and/or who are working directly with Center clients, staff, and volunteers be fully vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19. Fully vaccinated means it has been at least 10 days since the volunteer received the booster following the second dose of Pfizer or Moderna or one dose of Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine, and any future vaccines (e.g., boosters) that are recommended by the CDC to ensure that a person continues to be fully vaccinated. Volunteers must show valid proof of vaccination in the form of a COVID-19 vaccination card, digital vaccine record, photo, photocopy, or written confirmation from an authorized healthcare provider. Volunteers who do not satisfy The Center's vaccination requirement will no longer be permitted to serve in roles that require in-person and/or on-site volunteer activities.

Volunteers will need to show proof of their vaccination status at the beginning of their first volunteer shift upon The Center reopening to continue volunteering at a Center site and/or working with Center clients, staff, and other volunteers.

What happens when I arrive at Center facilities and worksites?

You will be greeted by Center staff and instructed to sign-in with your full name and phone number for contact tracing. You will also be temperature checked and provided with a KN95 mask. You may also bring your own KN95 or N95 mask.

Can I bring a guest to volunteer with me?

Please do not bring anyone that is not registered for the shift. To ensure the safety of our staff and volunteers, a capacity limit is set for each shift and many roles require specific qualifications and training. We also set limits based on what we expect to accomplish together within the given time frame which ensures a meaningful experience for all volunteers. If someone would like to join you, please direct them to our volunteer page where they can complete an application and participate in New Volunteer Orientation.

What if I am not feeling well or have been exposed to someone who is sick?

Before coming onsite to any Center location, please ask yourself the following questions:

- Am I not feeling well, do I have a cough, temperature or am I experiencing other symptoms of illness (e.g., COVID-19, flu, cold)?
- In the past two weeks, have I or someone I have had close contact with tested positive for COVID-19?

If you answered "yes" to either of these statements, please email your point of contact for your volunteer shift or volunteer@thecentersd.org to let us know that you will need to cancel your volunteer shift.

While the State of California has lifted its travel restrictions for out-of-state visitors, and The Center no longer requires a two-week quarantine to volunteer, it is recommended that any volunteer who has traveled out of state or out of the country evaluate their health before volunteering.

What are the current requirements of volunteers regarding personal protective equipment (PPE)?

KN95 or N95 masks are required for all in-person volunteer roles at a Center location. Additional PPE such as gloves may be required based on the volunteer role. Masks and gloves will be provided to volunteers.

Are ALL volunteers required to show proof of vaccination?

All volunteers attending in-person volunteer activities at a Center facility, working in person with any clients, staff, or other volunteers will be required to show proof of vaccination at the beginning of their first volunteer shift upon The Center reopening

How do I submit my proof of COVID-19 vaccination?

Please show proof of vaccination to your point of contact at the beginning of your first volunteer shift upon The Center reopening. Valid form of proof includes a COVID-19 vaccination card, digital vaccine record, photo, photocopy, or written confirmation from an authorized healthcare provider.

What if I volunteer as a group?

If you are volunteering as a group or as an individual, proof of vaccination will be required for all on-site and/or in-person volunteer roles.

What if I arrive for my volunteer shift without providing proof of vaccination?

Volunteers who have not provided proof of vaccination including a booster will be unable to volunteer. Any volunteer arriving for an on-site and/or in-person shift without clearance will be turned away.

What if I need a mask break?

If you need to take a break to remove your mask to hydrate, eat, or just take it off, please let your on-site supervisor know, and we will accommodate a 10-minute break in a designated area.

How can I get the COVID-19 vaccine?

There are several options for getting the COVID-19 vaccine, all at no cost:

- Contact your medical provider for an appointment and for any medical guidance.
- Contact your local pharmacy for an appointment many offer walk-up "no appointment necessary" vaccination times.
- Visit the San Diego County COVID-19 Vaccines webpage to learn about eligibility and to find a vaccination site near you.

If vaccinations are now a requirement, do volunteers still have to wear masks?

Yes. The Center's policy requires masks to be worn by all individuals, regardless of vaccination status. Volunteers are also required to follow any additional safety guidelines required by the program for which they are volunteering (e.g., distancing, masks outside, gloves, sanitizing, etc.).

Who can I contact with additional questions?

Please feel free to email volunteer@thecentersd.org with any additional questions.