



Autumn/Winter 2021-22 Vaccinations Programme Unpaid carers Q&A

What is the Autumn/Winter Vaccination Programme?

The Autumn/Winter programme is delivering the flu and COVID-19 booster vaccines to those who are eligible. First and second COVID-19 vaccine doses are also still being offered to those who haven't had them.

Why is the flu vaccine being delivered differently this year?

People who are eligible are also being offered the chance to get their flu and COVID-19 booster vaccines at the same appointment, where possible.

I am an unpaid carer – will I be eligible for the flu vaccine this year?

Yes. **All unpaid carers and young carers are eligible for the free flu vaccine.**

This year, the eligible groups have been extended to also include everyone aged 50 and over and all primary and secondary school children. Further information about the eligible groups can be found on NHS Inform.

Will unpaid carers be offered a COVID-19 booster vaccination?

Yes. NHS Scotland are following the JCVI advice and offering a booster dose to those most at risk first. From **mid-November, you will be able to book it online.**

You can only **receive your coronavirus booster dose 6 months (24 weeks) after your second dose.**

NHS Scotland will aim to give you both COVID-19 booster and flu vaccines at the same time where possible.



How do I make an appointment for the flu and COVID-19 booster vaccines if I am an unpaid carer?

- Young carers in primary and secondary school will be offered the flu vaccine as part of the schools programme.
- Those aged 60 or over will be contacted by their local NHS health board with details about their appointment for both vaccines.
- For those aged under 60, an online booking system will be available from mid-November as well as the option to call the national phone line to book an appointment for both vaccines.

We want to ensure that all unpaid and young carers know they are eligible. Some carers will be contacted directly to encourage them to book and there will also be a public marketing campaign to raise awareness and encourage people to come forward.

Will I need to prove that I am an unpaid carer in order to get the flu and COVID-19 booster vaccines?

No. You will not have to show any form of verification when you book, or when you attend your appointment, to prove you are an unpaid carer.

When will I be offered the flu and COVID-19 booster vaccines?

- Carers aged 70 and over should have already received a letter with their appointment details.
- Carers aged 60 and over will receive a letter around the end of October with their appointment details.
- From mid-November, carers aged 16-59 will be able to book an appointment online or on the phone. Further details on this will follow.

Further Information

You can find more information on vaccinations for unpaid carers on NHS Inform.

A new interactive guide has also been developed on NHS Inform for everyone to check which vaccines they are eligible for and how and when they will be called for or book their appointments.

If you need additional support to get to, or interpretation support during your appointment please visit www.nhsinform.scot/transport-and-interpreter or call 0800 030 8013.