



# ALAMEDA COUNTY COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY PRESS RELEASE

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA ★ CALIFORNIA

Office of Emergency Services  
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Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

**October 17, 2022**

Today California [Governor Gavin Newsom announced](#) that the State will end its COVID-19 State of Emergency next year on February 28, 2023.

## **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS?**

COVID-19 is circulating in our communities and infection can lead to severe consequences. Evidence has shown that the best protection against hospitalization and death due to COVID-19 is staying up to date on vaccination, including the updated booster at least two months after completing the primary vaccination series or any previous booster for everyone 5 and older.

COVID-19 [testing](#), [vaccinations](#), and [treatment](#) are free and accessible for everyone, regardless of insurance or immigration status. Cal/OSHA's [Emergency Temporary Standards](#) remain in effect.

Local health officials are reviewing today's announcement to identify additional impacts for residents and health care providers and will monitor State developments for additional guidance that can be shared with the community.

COVID-19 cases are expected to increase this winter and residents should take the following precautions when gathering including planning how and where to access treatment to prevent hospitalization and death:

- Stay home if ill or COVID-19 positive
- Keep up to date on vaccinations, including getting boosted
- Wear a high-quality, well-fitted mask for added protection against infection
- Gather small and outdoors to reduce risk or if gathering indoors, improve ventilation by opening doors and windows or running air filtration systems
- Get tested if exposed or sick, and before and after travel or gathering
- If positive, contact a health care provider or utilize a state-supported [resource](#) right away to get treatment and don't wait until symptoms get worse

We expect more flu cases this season and remind the community that everyone 6 months and older should get the flu vaccine now. The updated COVID-19 booster and the flu vaccine can be safely administered during the same appointment.

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