



AGENCY UPDATE

Public Health - Emergency Medical Services - Behavioral Health - Environmental Health
Homeless Care & Coordination - HealthPAC - Center for Healthy Schools & Communities

Week of September 26, 2022



Please share with your networks

Last week, the State of California aligned its [COVID-19 mask policy](#) with [current CDC guidance](#). State and County [mask guidance](#) for the general public now point to [CDC's COVID-19 Community Level](#) mask recommendations. **Masks remain required in California health care settings and long-term care facilities**, where many people are at higher risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes. Watch a [Masking Update](#) from Alameda County Health Officer Dr. Nicholas Moss

The State no longer requires masks in other congregate residential settings, unless there is an outbreak or when a County moves to Medium or High COVID-19 Community Levels.

Workers and residents in those settings can choose to mask and employers can require masking. In workplaces, employers are also subject to [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards](#) or the [Aerosol Transmissible Diseases Standard](#). Alameda County-operated facilities continue to be covered by the [County of Alameda's masking policies](#).

The Health Care Services Agency reminds residents that COVID-19 is still with us, and the virus is circulating in Alameda County. Based on your and your household's risk, you may want to continue masking even when the County COVID-19 Community Level is Low. See [Tips for Protections Against COVID-19](#)

COVID-19 Treatment Is Free and Available

We remind residents that safe, effective [treatment](#) for people who just tested positive for COVID-19 is **free and accessible** through health care providers or state resources that are available to everyone regardless of insurance status. Residents should make a plan for how they may access treatment if they test positive for COVID-19 and learn about treatment options now. Treatment may be accessed through:

- A health care provider



- State-supported [Test-to-Treat locations](#), operated by Optum Serve
- State-supported COVID-19 Telemedicine phone line 833-686-5051 and [website](#), operated by Sesame Care. Patients can go online 24/7 to make appointments. Most appointments are available from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. every day of the week. Additional after hours appointments may be available.

If a resident needs help understanding their options or hasn't heard from their doctor, they can utilize one of the State-supported options or contact the Alameda County COVID-19 Community Support Team: 510-268-2101, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Treatment in pill form (Paxlovid) must be taken within 5 days of symptoms starting so residents should not wait until symptoms get worse.

Flu Shots Are Recommended for Everyone 6 months+



Starting October 4th through December 16th, Alameda County school-based clinics will offer both flu and COVID-19 vaccinations. We are working with school districts that we partnered with on COVID-19 vaccination for children ages 5 and older. Vaccinations will be available to students and their families, as well as school staff.

Updated booster and flu vaccination appointments are also available through health care providers, major pharmacies, or <https://myturn.ca.gov/>. Flu and COVID-19 vaccines can be safely given during the same appointment.

Recipe4Health's Chief Medical Officer Speaks at the White House Conference on Hunger, Health and Nutrition

Dr. Steven Chen, Chief Medical Officer at [Recipe4Health](#), presented at the White House Conference on Hunger, Health and Nutrition, highlighting the importance of addressing social drivers of health by prescribing patients with nutrient-rich food as a tool for prevention, reversal, or management of certain health conditions. Dr. Chen shared more on Recipe4Health's equitable approach to ending hunger, reducing diet-related disease and closing disparities in the most impacted communities.



Recipe4Health, a "Food as Medicine" program was added to CalAIM's Community Support program this month. Recipe4Health seeks to improve physical and behavioral health and well-being for patients by transforming the health care system's capacity to address food insecurity.

Individuals with chronic health conditions, high-risk perinatal conditions, individuals being discharged from a hospital or skilled nursing facility, or individuals with extensive care coordination needs may qualify to receive two (2) meals per day and/or medically-supportive food and nutrition services for up to 12 weeks, or longer if medically necessary.

CalAIM beneficiaries can enroll in this service or other CalAIM programs by **1-800-407-4627** for Anthem Blue Cross members and **1-877-932-2738** or **1-800-735-2929** for Alameda Alliance for Health members.

Tips for Protection Against COVID-19



- Get vaccinated and boosted – vaccination is the single most important action to prevent severe disease and death from COVID-19.
- You can **choose to wear a mask**, especially if you answer yes to any of the following:
 - Are you over age 65 or have health issues that puts you at risk for a severe case of COVID-19?
 - Are you missing one or more of your COVID-19 vaccine doses?
- Do you live/visit with people at risk of going to the hospital if they get COVID-19?
- Do you go to work or interact with the public regularly?
- Are **cases High** where you live, in your social group, or where you are going?
- Do you feel safer with a mask?
- **Layer your protection** — in addition to vaccination and masking, improve ventilation (or gather outdoors), get tested if exposed or ill, and **stay home if sick**.
- Talk to your health care provider if you are immunocompromised or have other health risks.

COVID-19 Vaccine Locations and Resources

Updated COVID-19 boosters are available at **Weekes Community Center**, 27182 Patrick Ave, Hayward on Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Find more COVID-19 [vaccine](#) and [testing](#) locations on our [website](#). Additional resources on our COVID-19 website include a [ventilation interactive tool](#), guidance for [isolation and quarantine](#), [mask and face coverings](#), [workplace recovery](#), and [community resources](#).

Free COVID-19 Vaccine

Weekes Community Center
27182 Patrick Avenue, Hayward, CA 94544
Close to W. Tennyson Road | ADA Accessible

Saturdays: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

UPDATED BOOSTERS NOW AVAILABLE For People 12 Years And Older!

VACCINES
Pfizer (5+)
Moderna (5+)
Johnson & Johnson (18+)
Novavax (12+)

Walk-ins Welcome
Appointments Encouraged

NO Identification (ID) required

APPPOINTMENTS
Call 510-268-2101
Text VAX to 855-315-1373
alamedacountyvax.org

Safe
Effective
Free

ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NAACP

ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY

COVID-19 Epidemic Data Points

- 10.4 cases per 100,000 for the total population
- 5.5% test positivity in the general population; 4.3% in low-income areas
- 80 hospitalized, 5 in ICU

Please visit our [dashboard](#) for more data on COVID-19.

California Launches Abortion Access Website



This [new website](#) provides current and accurate information about accessing abortion services throughout the state. The website, abortion.ca.gov, is intended to serve people in- and out-of-state with information about their legal rights, where to find providers, how to pay for services and financial assistance, ways to locate wellness and emotional support, and more.

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