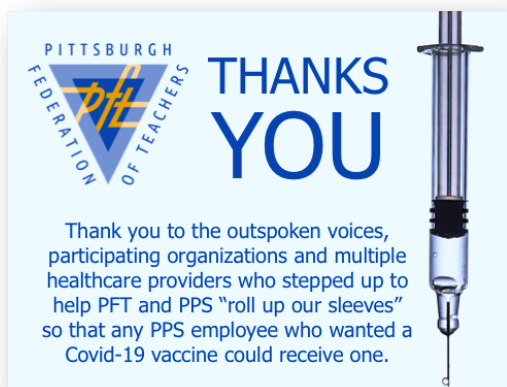


CORONAVIRUS

Updates

A Sincere Thank You To All.



From the moment Covid-19 vaccinations became a potential reality in late 2020, the PFT and countless others began focused work on securing vaccinations for PFT members and for every PPS employee who wished to have one. The effort was truly collaborative, and was certainly not without its hurdles or controversies along the way.

But when good people unite to do important things for the common good, anything is possible. There are easily over three dozen individuals worthy of recognition for this effort

—each of whom simply wanted to help get us all to roll up our sleeves as quickly and efficiently as possible!

First, we'd like to offer a special shout out to **Mayor Bill Peduto** who directly petitioned the Governor to prioritize educators and school staff for vaccination—a watershed moment that drew focused attention to the urgent issue of teacher and school employee vaccinations.

Special thanks also goes to regional representatives like **PA State Senator Lindsey Williams** (*and every leader we reached out to urgently!*) who took up our cause and answered our calls no matter what time of day or night.

We must also heartily thank **PPS Assistant Superintendent Dr. Rodney Necciai** and **Giant Eagle**, as well as the participating vaccine **site sponsors, hosts** and **numerous workers** who held incredible events under trying circumstances.

Collectively, our goal was to provide all PPS staff who wanted a vaccine with the opportunity to receive one expeditiously. In that, our mission was accomplished!

Welcome back, everyone—and thank you again!

**** This Just In:** *A recent survey indicates that 81 percent of all AFT members have either been vaccinated or have appointment to get one.* [Learn more here.](#)

PA COVID Vaccination Update.

Up to 1 million more Pennsylvanians are newly eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine now that the state has moved into Phase 1B of its vaccine rollout, according to *Spotlight PA*. They include [postal workers, prison staff, incarcerated people, public transit workers, and more](#). Eligibility opened to Phase 1C this past Monday, and everyone age 16 and up should be eligible next Monday—April 19th.

For vaccine providers, check Spotlight PA's [map and county-by-county listing](#).

Updated Vaccination Resources From Public Source.

We've tried to stay current and up-to-date with news about vaccine availability. This article and resource list (*with links*) from the nonprofit website *Public Source* does a great job of spelling out the latest. Even with their disclaimer—below—we'd definitely recommend [using or sharing their vaccine resource article you can access by clicking here](#).

The PublicSource staff created this resource page to share what we have learned to help navigate the process. This will never be 100% comprehensive, and we can't vouch for vaccine supply at any location. Eligibility criteria are also changing all the time, so we recommend checking both the pharmacy website and their social media accounts for updated eligibility information and last-minute doses.

So You've Been Vaccinated. Now What?

Or more specifically, what can you now do that you couldn't do before? At every instance throughout this pandemic, we've tried to answer such questions by linking to resources you can trust—and the links below are no exception.

In fact, for those who have been vaccinated, we're not sure there's a better page to explain "what's next" than what is available below from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

What does it mean to be considered "fully vaccinated."
What has changed about COVID restrictions if I am fully vaccinated?
What has not changed even if I am fully vaccinated?
What do we know now, and what are we still learning?

Click here to view [When You've Been Fully Vaccinated - How to Protect Yourself and Others](#).

Click here to view [Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People](#).

Information Links That Bear Repeating:

Below please find additional links providing helpful information you can bookmark and count on as the COVID-19 situation changes and evolves.

[AFT/AFTPA Coronavirus Resources & Updates for Members](#)

[AFT/PFT Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#)

-- A Negotiated, Free Benefit to Members

[Click for EAP Information Flyer](#)

[Click for Life Skills Solutions Website](#) (*login upper right*)

[AFT Share My Lesson Stress Management Resources](#) (*searchable*)

[Download the PA COVID-Alert Tracking App](#)

[National Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Coronavirus Resources](#)

[CDC Vaccine Information Landing Page](#)

[PPS Coronavirus Resources and Links](#)

[PA Department of Health Coronavirus Resources](#)

[PA-Specific Resources from Senator Casey](#)

[Student Debt Relief Resources](#)

[Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\) Rumor Control](#)

[Coronavirus Testing Locations](#) (*view interactive map mid page*)



Coronavirus Self-Checker

A guide to help you make decisions and seek appropriate medical care

**** PFT Coronavirus Updates Released Periodically As Needed ****

Missed an update or message? [View our archive of COVID-19 Updates here](#).

Please keep in touch—keep sharing your ideas, your questions and your concerns.

In solidarity—

Nina Esposito-Visgitis