



ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

19 Public Square, Suite 150 - Belleville, IL 62220

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 1/10/2023

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St. Clair County Health Department is offering “FREE” COVID-19 & Flu testing – No Appointment Necessary

*“Free” COVID-19 Vaccines for all eligible ages continues at the
St. Clair County Health Department*

Belleville, IL – January 10, 2023 - The St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) has opened a **“FREE” COVID-19 & Flu Testing Clinic** located at 19 Public Square, Room E125, located right off North Illinois Street in the St. Clair County Annex Building Meeting Room. Testing hours are Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, closed Saturday, Sunday and holidays. Rapid Antigen tests are being administered, with the results emailed or text in about 15 to 20 minutes. Anyone is welcome to test. Registration is required and can be completed ahead of time or at the time of testing through this link: <https://www.simplereport.gov/app/register/98CNJ>.

“Free” COVID-19 and Influenza* (Flu) vaccines continue to be offered through the St. Clair County Health Department during regular business hours Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Evening appointments are available the second Thursday of the month from 4 pm to 6:30 pm. The health department is closed Saturday, Sunday and holidays. Appointments are **REQUIRED** to receive vaccines and can be set through the website: <https://scchealthdept.com/covid-19-vaccine-scheduling/>. *Please note: Free Influenza (Flu) vaccine is available for adults age 18 years and older while supply lasts. Flu vaccine for children may be available if they are eligible for VFC/CHIP vaccine.

The CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) recommends everyone stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines for their age group. For [children and teens aged 6 months – 17 years](#), COVID-19 vaccine dosage is based on age on the day of vaccination, not on size or weight. Children get a smaller dose of COVID-19 vaccine than teens and [adults aged 18 years and older](#). Updated boosters are recommended. The CDC recommends one updated bivalent booster dose for everyone **aged 5 years and older** if it has been at least **2 months** since your last dose and **for**



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children aged 6 months–5 years who completed the Moderna primary series and if it has been at least **2 months** since their last dose. There is no booster recommendation for children aged 6 months–4 years who got the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine primary series, however, the 3rd dose of the primary series is given as bivalent vaccine. An [overview of COVID-19 vaccines](#) can be found on the CDC’s website.

COVID-19 and Influenza (flu virus) continue to circulate throughout the United States, as well as locally in Illinois, including St. Clair County. CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that individuals get vaccinated because it is the best protection against the influenza and COVID-19 viruses. Practicing preventive measures will help you protect your family, friends and yourself:

- Stay home when you are not feeling well; do not send your child to school or daycare when he or she is feeling sick, consult with your healthcare provider.
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water; if water is not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with these viruses.
- Cover your nose and mouth with tissue or the inside of your elbow when you cough or sneeze.
- Limit your contact with others when you are sick and avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- When possible, have more outdoor activities instead of indoor activities.

Current CDC COVID-19 activity by county can be found [here](#). U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report from the CDC can be found [here](#).

About the St. Clair County Health Department

The St. Clair County Health Department, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board, works to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in St. Clair County. Learn more about the St. Clair County Health Department at <https://scchealthdept.com/>. For more information, please contact Brenda Fedak at brenda.fedak@co.st-clair.il.us or via phone at 618-233-7703 ext. 4420

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