

HEALTH BENEFITS E-NEWS

*Department of Human Resource
Management
Office of Health Benefits*

September 7, 2022

State Health Benefits Launches 2022-23 Flu Shot Program

It's the time of year for getting a flu shot to protect yourself and those you love. Please encourage employees to get both a flu shot and COVID-19 vaccination or booster (visit vaccinate.virginia.gov).

Once again, DHRM and Capitol Square Healthcare are partnering to provide two free flu shot drive-thru clinics for COVA Care, COVA HDHP and COVA HealthAware members at [Brightpoint \(formerly John Tyler\) Community College in Midlothian](#) on October 14 and 28, from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Flu shots will be given in a covered parking garage. A photo ID, plan ID card and wearing a mask are required to receive the flu vaccine.

During the 2022-23 flu season, state health plan members may again get a free flu shot at pharmacies participating in their health plan's network.

- **COVA Care, COVA HDHP and COVA HealthAware members** also may receive shots at no cost from network physicians' offices and other participating providers.
- **Kaiser Permanente HMO members** must go to a participating Kaiser medical center.
- **Optima Health members** will receive flu shots at no cost from network participating pharmacies. To find participating pharmacies, call the number on the back of your ID card.
- **Capitol Square Healthcare** in downtown Richmond will offer free shots onsite to COVA Care, COVA HDHP and COVA HealthAware members beginning in October **by appointment only**. Kaiser Permanente members, Optima Health members, TRICARE members, waived and wage employees pay for the vaccine. Members should call the clinic in advance for an appointment at (844) 342-1791. The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is also available by appointment.

Visit www.dhrm.virginia.gov/healthcoverage/flushotinformation to find participating providers, questions and answers on each plan and a flyer to distribute to employees. It is important that plan members call ahead to be sure the pharmacy is participating in the program and flu shots are available. An appointment may be required.

See the [flu shot guidelines](#) for agencies that wish to coordinate flu shots onsite with participating pharmacies, or offer drive through or walk-up options. Again, be sure that the pharmacy is participating in the Commonwealth's program before scheduling a clinic.

A pharmacy must file in-network flu shot claims through its online system. If plan members are denied coverage for the flu shot, they should ask the pharmacist to call the telephone number on the back of their ID card. COVA Care and COVA HDHP ID cards have a Pharmacy Questions number, and the COVA HealthAware cards have a Pharmacy number.

While members may receive a flu shot at a non-network pharmacy, coverage will be at the out-of-network benefit level. This means they will likely have to file the claim themselves and will be responsible for any costs over the allowable charge.

Please do not reply to this email. You may send inquiries to the Office of Health Benefits mailbox at ohb@dhrm.virginia.gov