



Frequently Asked Questions

THE PROGRAM

1. How is the Guild Corporate Vaccination Program different to an onsite clinic?

Unlike a conventional onsite flu clinic, getting your employer-funded influenza vaccination from your local community pharmacy means:

- You can get vaccinated at a participating pharmacy, near you, including rural and remote areas.
- You can get vaccinated at a time and date that suits you instead of being limited to certain clinic dates and times. Many community pharmacies are open for extended hours including evenings and weekends.

2. Who will I receive my vaccination from?

You will be vaccinated by a qualified pharmacist who has completed an accredited vaccination training program. All vaccinating pharmacists hold a current First Aid and CPR certificate and a certificate in anaphylaxis management. The pharmacist will administer the vaccine in accordance with the Australian Immunisation Handbook and the standards applicable in your state or territory. Pharmacists are experienced immunisation providers and have been vaccinating in Australia since 2014.

3. Do I have to pay for the vaccination?

No. The vaccination is fully funded by your organisation if you meet the eligibility outlined by the organisation.

4. What dates am I able to make an appointment to receive my influenza vaccination?

The period of peak influenza circulation in Australia typically occurs between June and August, and it is recommended that vaccination occurs before the influenza season starts. Advice from the [Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation](#) (ATAGI) may change slightly from year to year, but vaccination usually commences in April when the seasons updated vaccine stock becomes available. You will be advised by your employer of the exact dates you are able to book your vaccination appointment.

5. Which pharmacies am I able to get my vaccination from?

Participating community pharmacies in your selected location will be listed on your booking portal.

6. How do I book an appointment?

Appointments are made via the online booking portal. Your employer will provide a QR code and/or URL to access the online booking portal when available.

7. Will I receive a booking confirmation from the pharmacy?

Yes, you will receive a confirmation email at the time of booking. You will also receive a reminder email 24 hours before the appointment (unless your appointment is within 24 hours). If you do not receive a booking confirmation, please check your junk or spam email. Please note, whilst you do not need to present a confirmation number at your appointment, it is useful if you need to make any changes to your existing appointment.

8. Can my appointment be modified once made?

Yes, you can modify or cancel your appointment via the online booking portal. Click on 'Reschedule an existing appointment' and enter the booking reference located in your confirmation email. To change pharmacy location, you will need to cancel your original booking then make a new booking with your preferred pharmacy. You will receive a new email confirmation with the updated booking details.

9. What happens if I don't turn up to my vaccination appointment?

Please let the pharmacy know at your earliest convenience and rebook at a more suitable time using the online booking portal. If your booking has already passed, you will simply need to go back online to create a new appointment. There is no penalty to you or your employer if you are unable to attend your original appointment.



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10. What will happen when I arrive at the pharmacy?

As with all vaccination providers, the pharmacist is required to make a final assessment of your eligibility to receive an influenza vaccination on the day of your appointment. This will include completing the pre-screening process and gaining your consent to complete the vaccination service. In addition, as at other vaccination clinics, the pharmacist will request that you remain in the pharmacy for 15 minutes to monitor you for side effects from the vaccination. Your vaccination details will be uploaded to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) as per legislation.

11. Does the pharmacist need to wipe my arm with a swab or wear gloves when giving me my vaccination?

No. As outlined in the Australian Immunisation Handbook, if the skin is visibly clean, there is no need to wipe it with an antiseptic (such as an alcohol wipe). Likewise, gloves and protective eyewear are not routinely recommended for immunisation providers. However, the pharmacist should wear gloves and eyewear if they are at risk of coming into contact with body fluids or if they have open lesions on their hands.

12. What details will the pharmacy need from me?

The pharmacy will ask for proof of identity, which may include photo ID. There is no voucher system in place under this Program.

13. Do I have to take anything back to work to show that I've been vaccinated?

No. The Guild provides regular reports to your employer to show who has been vaccinated. If you have consented, a record of your immunisation will also have been uploaded to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

14. Which vaccinations does the Guild Corporate Health Vaccination Program cover?

The Program covers only the seasonal egg-based quadrivalent influenza vaccine for *patients under the age of 65*. For adults aged 65 years and over, [an adjuvanted quadrivalent influenza vaccine is available](#) under the National Immunisation Program (NIP). This adjuvanted quadrivalent vaccine is preferentially recommended over the other available influenza vaccines for this age group. However, the adjuvanted quadrivalent vaccine is not funded in this program and may need to be administered by a doctor or other National Immunisation Program provider. Please note in certain States and Territories pharmacists are able to administer vaccines on the NIP.

15. How will my privacy be protected and who can access my details?

As stated in the *Guild's Privacy Policy* [Privacy Policy - Pharmacy Guild of Australia](#), all data relating to this Program will be stored securely. Data will be stored for the sole purpose of this Program and will not be disclosed to any third parties unless you express consent. Only relevant personnel from The Pharmacy Guild of Australia and your employer will have access to such data.

16. Who is The Pharmacy Guild of Australia?

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia (The Guild) is the peak national organisation representing community pharmacies in Australia. Through member pharmacies, The Guild has several years' experience in the administration of a corporate influenza vaccination program. For more information, please visit www.guildcorporatehealth.com.au.

17. Who do I call if I have questions about the program?

For clinical enquiries, please contact your participating pharmacist. You can find the pharmacy's contact details on the online booking portal or in your confirmation email. For any other enquiries, please contact The Pharmacy Guild of Australia, on 13GUILD or email info@guildcorporatehealth.com.au.

18. Why aren't COVID-19 vaccinations covered by the program?

The COVID-19 vaccine is voluntary and free through the government's [COVID-19 vaccine rollout](#). Pharmacists are however authorised to administer COVID-19 vaccinations so if you require a COVID-19 vaccination, you can book this through findapharmacy.com.au or [alternatively speak to the pharmacist who administers your influenza vaccine](#).



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19. What is pharmacies role in COVID-19 vaccination?

Community pharmacy was called upon by the Federal Government to join the COVID-19 vaccination national roll out. Over six million doses have been administered by approximately 3600 community pharmacies as of March 2022. Pharmacists are authorised to administer all TGA approved COVID vaccinations.

20. Can I get my COVID-19 vaccination at the same time as my flu shot?

Yes. The ATAGI advice states [that influenza vaccines can be co-administered \(i.e. at the same time\) with the COVID-19 vaccines.](#)