

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LA County Library Offers Free Flu Immunization Clinics at Libraries This Fall

In Partnership with the LA County Department of Public Health, Clinics will be Held October through November

Flu season is here. To help you stay healthy, LA County Library is partnering with the LA County Department of Public Health for the seventh year in a row to offer free flu immunization clinics at community libraries throughout the county in the months of October and November. No appointment or insurance is required.

Over 2,500 free flu immunizations were given at LA County Library locations in 2019. To continue offering this vital service while prioritizing the safety of customers and staff, the Library will enforce physical distancing and masking requirements and provide additional disinfecting at each free flu clinic location. Drive-through options are available at select locations.

According to the CDC, up to 11% of Americans become ill with the flu each year, leading to thousands of deaths—making it more important than ever to get a flu immunization to protect yourself and the people around you, and help reduce the strain on healthcare systems responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Because flu is highly contagious, immunizations not only protect the person who gets the immunization, but also reduce the risk for their family, coworkers, and other close contacts. Flu immunizations are recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older, including healthy adults. Pregnant women, children, adults 50 years of age and older, and immunocompromised individuals are especially susceptible.

"During these unprecedented times, the well-being our staff and customers is always on our minds," said LA County Library Director Skye Patrick. "Working with Public Health to make flu immunization clinics available to our customers again this year allows us to provide them with a valuable resource to keep them healthy."

"This year, flu and COVID-19 will be circulating at the same time in our communities throughout LA County, making it more important than ever that as many people as possible get their flu immunization," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "Having flu immunizations available at LA County Library locations at no cost and with no insurance requirement will make it easy for residents to protect themselves and their loved ones. We encourage everyone 6 months and older to get immunized and deeply appreciate everyone at LA County Library for collaborating on this effort."

To view the complete list of dates, times and library locations, and for additional information, visit LACountyLibrary.org/FluShot.

Call your regular health care provider to see what other shots you may need. If you don't have a regular provider, call 2-1-1 (LA County Information Line) or visit <u>publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/FluSeason</u> for a list of additional no cost or low-cost vaccine providers.

About LA County Library

Founded in 1912, LA County Library is one of the largest and most innovative library systems in the US. It offers free public resources including books, music, multimedia materials, computer and internet access, and educational and recreational services to 3.4 million residents across 3,000 square miles through its 86 libraries and mobile fleet of 18 vehicles, including 3 Bookmobiles, 6 MākMōs (maker mobiles), 1 Reading Machine, and 8 outreach vehicles. LA County Library is dedicated to reducing barriers and increasing access to and equity of public services for all. To learn more, visit LACountyLibrary.org and follow @LACountyLibrary on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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