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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Craven County Begins COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shot Clinics**

New Bern, N.C. – The Craven County Health Department in collaboration with CarolinaEast Health System and Coastal Carolina Health Care (CCHC) will begin giving Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine booster shots this week. Mass community vaccination clinics for Pfizer will start on October 6, 2021, at the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center, 203 S. Front Street, New Bern by appointment.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued an Emergency Use Order for Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine booster shots. Only individuals who received the Pfizer vaccine are potentially eligible for a booster shot at this time. Due to limited data on the safety and efficacy of mixing COVID-19 vaccines, vaccine products are not considered interchangeable. Individuals who were vaccinated against COVID-19 with the Moderna or Johnson and Johnson vaccines are not yet eligible for booster vaccines.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations the following groups should receive a booster shot of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after completing their initial two dose series of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

- Individuals 65 years of age and older
- Individuals 18 through 64 years of age at high risk of severe COVID-19
- Individuals 18 through 64 years of age at increased risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting (healthcare workers, education staff, food and agriculture workers, corrections workers, U.S. Postal Service workers, public transit workers, grocery store workers)

As of October 6, 2021, all Pfizer vaccines scheduled through the Craven County Health Department will be administered at the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center. This includes first, second, additional, and booster doses. Individuals that are scheduled for Moderna first, second, or additional dose will be seen at the Craven County Health Department. All vaccines are administered by appointment only.

To schedule a vaccine appointment, please call the COVID-19 vaccine call center at 252-636-6693 for assistance. The call center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. For COVID-19 updates please visit the COVID-19 vaccine page at [www.cravencountync.gov](http://www.cravencountync.gov) and the Craven County Health Department Facebook page @cravencountyhealth.

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