



October 18, 2021

For immediate release

For more information, contact: Kim Engel, Director, 308-760-2415, kengel@pphd.org

Booster update, additional COVID testing access

Moderna and Johnson & Johnson boosters are now awaiting final decision from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). The FDA approved the boosters late last week. Residents will be notified when available in the Panhandle.

Booster? Is it right for you?

Moderna and Pfizer: Additional Dose (28 days)

- Moderately to severely immunocompromised

Pfizer: Booster (six months)

- 65+ years
- Long term care residents
- 50-64 years at high risk for severe disease
- 18-49 years at high risk for severe disease are recommended to weigh their individual benefits with risks
- Persons at high risk for occupational exposure including frontline workers (teachers, healthcare)

A new, free COVID testing opportunity for symptomatic and asymptomatic residents will be available at Chadron Community Hospital beginning Thursday, October 21. This will be accessible Monday-Friday, 9am-2pm. Appointments are encouraged at <https://tinyurl.com/3z8jwsy5>.

Vaccinations have protection against all known variants, including Delta. For anyone age 12 and older, please get vaccinated. COVID vaccine is widely available across the Panhandle and there is no charge for the vaccine.

- **Box Butte/Grant:** <https://tinyurl.com/25mwaapu> | [safeway.com](https://www.safeway.com)
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - Dave's Pharmacy Hemingford & Alliance, Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 5:30 PM (Pfizer 2 PM- 5:30 PM)
 - Alliance Community Pharmacy, Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM - 6 PM

- **Cheyenne/Deuel:** <https://tinyurl.com/5b5uac8p> | walmart.com | safeway.com
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - During COVID clinic hours visit <https://tinyurl.com/5b5uac8p> for days and hours
- **Dawes/Sioux:** <https://tinyurl.com/x5d5nnbn> | walmart.com | safeway.com
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - Western Community Health Resources, Monday-Friday, 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
- **Garden:** To schedule an appointment visit vaccinate.ne.gov - provider will call you
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - Regional West Garden County Clinic Front Desk, Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM
- **Kimball:** <https://tinyurl.com/d2u8txrs>
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - Kimball Health Services, Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 4:30 PM
- **Morrill:** <https://tinyurl.com/sb8mvumm>
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - Morrill County Hospital Clinic, Wednesdays, 8 AM - 4 PM
- **Sheridan:** <https://tinyurl.com/cvrmkv38>
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - Gordon Rural Health Clinic, Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM- 9:30 AM
- **Scotts Bluff/Banner:** <https://tinyurl.com/hkw7wk2p> | walmart.com | safeway.com | walgreens.com
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - Gering CAPWN Health Center, Monday-Friday, 9 AM-12 PM & 1 PM-4 PM
 - Scottsbluff County Immunization Clinic, Monday-Friday, 9:40 AM-12:30 PM & 1:30 PM-5:30 PM

If you are homebound or have a condition that makes it hard for you to access a COVID vaccine, please call Kim Engel at 308-633-2866 ext 101.

People who are fully COVID vaccinated will not be required to quarantine due to close contact. If you have lost your COVID vaccine card, go to <https://tinyurl.com/2zh7uhhu>.

Unified Command confirms 323 more cases of COVID in the Panhandle since last reporting on Monday, October 11.

All Ages: 323

County	Cases
Banner	2
Box Butte	35
Cheyenne	54
Dawes	21
Deuel	15
Garden	6
Grant	5

Kimball	10
Morrill	16
Scotts Bluff	169
Sheridan	18
Sioux	2
Unknown	0

March 2, 2020-October 18, 2021

- **Positive: 12,284**
- **Last week's cases: (cases/100,000): 233**
- **Last week's cases: 307**
- **Last week's positivity rate: 10.1%**
- **Deaths: 209**
- **Deaths Pending Verification: 13**
- **Active Hospitalizations: 30**
- **Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 644**

Current COVID testing access can be found at <http://pphd.org/COVID-19.html>.

The Panhandle COVID dashboard is available at www.pphd.org. The state COVID dashboard is available at <https://tinyurl.com/ufj9fcuf>. For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Panhandle Public Health District, Region 21, 22, and 23 Emergency Management, and Scotts Bluff County Health Department are working as a unified command on this evolving situation. Essential updates will be regularly communicated to the public and community partners.

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work, and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community. Visit our website www.pphd.org.