Boost vaccination rates in the workplace

Vaccines protect

With new variants of COVID-19 emerging and vaccine rates slowing, it is critical for employers to address gaps in vaccinations. As an organization, you have a unique opportunity to help your communities achieve herd immunity while showing your employees you care about their well-being. In order to accelerate economic recovery and transition to societal normalcy, multiple strategies are needed to boost vaccination rates. Adapt and implement these actions based on the unique needs and challenges of your workforce.
**Make it easy to access vaccinations**
- Offer onsite vaccination clinics for employees and their families.
- Find and schedule appointments for employees who may have language barriers or limited reliable internet access.
- Provide a transportation stipend, a public transit pass or a gift card for a ridesharing app for employees requiring assistance getting to a vaccination site.
- Offer free or discounted childcare services to minimize family disruption.

**Provide paid time off for vaccinations and recovery**
- Allow flexible scheduling and remote workdays for employees to get vaccinated and to rest if they experience side effects.
- Allow parents time and flexibility to take their children to vaccine appointments and care for them as they recover from any side effects.

**Offer a reward**
- Consider offering financial incentives to drive participation, like one-time payments, gift cards or raffle drawings.
- Provide a visible token, such as a badge sticker or button, for those who are vaccinated.

**Provide reliable information from trusted sources**
- Educate employees with vaccine facts from health officials, health care providers and other experts. Be sure to highlight the value and benefits of the vaccine. Check out Providence’s COVID-19 hub and blog, OHA, and the CDC for trusted information.
- Inform managers on organizational policies, answers to commonly asked questions, and community resources.
- Use culturally conscious communications, including resources in multiple languages, to ensure better access to reliable information by employees and their family members.

**Emphasize personal stories**
- Ask leaders and internal influencers to share their experience by posting stories, photos or videos on internal communication channels. Encourage employees to share why being vaccinated and getting to the new normal is important to them.
- Offer a platform for employees to share their stories of loss or becoming ill from the virus. This not only helps employees heal emotionally but also encourages others to take action.

**Remind employees the COVID-19 vaccine is free**
- Remind employees that COVID-19 vaccines are provided at no cost and are widely available at pharmacies, many doctor’s offices and community clinics.
- Encourage employees to utilize their health insurance benefits for other preventive services, like well-care visits and flu vaccinations. Remind them there is no member cost sharing when visiting an in-network provider or pharmacy.

**Communicate frequently across your organization’s preferred channels**
- Share messaging across multiple channels, such as on your company intranet, on posters or video boards in common areas, in team meetings or via email announcements.

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**Want support for your employee well-being program? We’re here to help.** Contact your Health Management Consultant or email our team at workplacewellness@providence.org.