

133 Molesworth Street
PO Box 5013
Wellington 6140
New Zealand

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Thank you for the important work you have been doing as an essential worker in the security industry during Alert Level 4 and Alert Level 3.

The Government recognises the valuable contribution you have been making and also the need to protect you and your whānau/aiga, and would like to ensure you are prioritised to receive a COVID-19 vaccination if you haven't had one already.

You are therefore invited to book your vaccination for yourself and any whānau/aiga living with you (including anyone in your household who may not have residential status in New Zealand).

You can call the **COVID Vaccination Healthline on 0800 282 926** and the call-taker will find a priority appointment for you – just **advise them that you are an “essential worker”**. All calls are free and the Healthline is open from 8am - 8pm, 7 days a week. Language translators are available if needed.

Or if possible, you can book an appointment online at [BookMyVaccine.nz](https://bookmyvaccine.nz) and, in most regions of New Zealand, you will be able to find an appointment quite quickly.

There is also a Pacifika Healthline you can call on 0800 211 221 which operates 8am – 8pm, 7 days a week. Calls to this line are also free and the call-takers speak a range of Pacific languages.

Two appointments will be booked for you – one for your first dose and another for your second dose. Your second appointment is recommended to take place six weeks after your first appointment.

Once your bookings have been confirmed, you will be sent an email or text message confirming the date and time of your appointments. It will also include information on how to change your bookings. If you only have a landline, Healthline will send you a confirmation letter.

It is very important you do get your second dose. While the vaccine will not stop you getting COVID-19, with two doses you're far less likely to fall seriously ill and less likely to transmit the virus to others. Even if you are vaccinated you should continue to follow the advice for each COVID-19 Alert Level – wearing masks, social distancing, sanitising your hands and staying home if you are sick.

Getting accurate information about the COVID-19 vaccine and the rollout programme is important. Visit the www.health.govt.nz and www.covid19.govt.nz websites for the latest information. Trusted information in te reo Māori and English can be found at <https://karawhiua.nz/>.

Thank you for helping to protect your whānau, aiga, community and the country from COVID-19, and thank you again for the important work you are doing as an essential worker.

Kind regards,



Rachel Mackay
Director National Contracts, COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunisation Programme