

# COVID-19 Advocacy & Policy Updates Only as of September 16, 2021 at 3:30pm

## State Updates

### Updates/Resources

- Governor Hogan gave immediate authorization for 3<sup>rd</sup> doses/booster shots of the COVID-19 vaccine for seniors in congregate care facilities via a MD Department of Health Order: <https://governor.maryland.gov/2021/09/08/governor-hogan-announces-immediate-authorization-of-covid-19-booster-shots-for-seniors-in-congregate-care-facilities/>.
- Governor Hogan had flags lowered in remembrance of the over 10,000 Marylanders who have died from COVID-19. Full press release: <https://governor.maryland.gov/2021/09/16/governor-hogan-orders-flags-lowered-in-honor-of-10000-marylanders-lost-to-covid-19/>.

For updates from the Governor's office on the coronavirus:

<https://governor.maryland.gov/coronavirus/> or <https://www.facebook.com/GovLarryHogan/>

MD COVIDlink: <https://covidlink.maryland.gov/content/>

MD Vaccination Sign-up: <https://www.marylandvax.org/>

## Howard County Updates

### Howard County Council

In-person testimony at the George Howard Building will resume on September 20, 2021. Masks are required. Testimony sign-ups will include the option to indicate in-person or virtual participation and close at 7pm on the night of the public hearing.

### General Updates/Resources

Press conference on Howard County's preparations for 3<sup>rd</sup> doses/booster shots of the COVID-19 vaccine: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/News090321>.

Howard County Vaccination Clinics: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/health/covid-19-vaccine>.

StayCOVIDSafe Howard County Updates: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/health/covid-19>.

## Federal Updates

### General Updates/Resources

- National Council of Nonprofits – Vaccine Mandates and Your Nonprofit: <https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/thought-leadership/vaccine-mandates-and-your-nonprofit>.

- The cost of at-home COVID-19 tests is an eligible medical expense that can be reimbursed or paid through an FSA. Full press release: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-cost-of-home-testing-for-covid-19-is-eligible-medical-expense-reimbursable-under-fsas-hsas>.
- U.S. Department of Labor's September 16, 2021 Unemployment Insurance Claims Report: <https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/OPA/newsreleases/ui-claims/20211675.pdf>.