

## Ask Annie: Untangling Immunization Information For Pharmacists and Technicians

I have received numerous questions regarding the authority of pharmacists, interns, and technicians to administer COVID-19 vaccines as well as other authorized immunizations. In an attempt to clearly break them down and answer the majority of the questions, I have developed the tables below. These tables include relevant information and requirements to practicing under the three authorities that allow pharmacists, interns, and technicians to administer COVID-19 vaccines.

**Please note**, the guidance and emergency rules that give authority for COVID-19 vaccine administration are subject to change and are not all permanent allowances.

### ***HHS Declaration***

This declaration is only in effect during the Federal Emergency Period.

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Ordering Provider?	Supervising Pharmacist	Pharmacist must provide on-site oversight of the vaccine administration by pharmacy interns or technicians. Supervising pharmacist must <i>approve</i> administration to the patient.
Protocol Update Required?	NO	The HHS Declaration gives independent authority for the pharmacist to order and pharmacists, technicians, and interns to administer the COVID-19 vaccines.
National Technician Certification required?	NO	
Additional Training Requirements?	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A basic CPR certificate</li> <li>• ACPE-accredited Immunization Practical Training Certification (NO minimum hour requirement)</li> <li>• 2 hours of ACPE approved immunization-related CE during the “license period”</li> </ul>

Are additional vaccines allowed in addition to COVID?	YES	Allows pharmacists, technicians, and interns to administer FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed COVID-19 vaccines to patients ages 3 or older as well as ACIP-recommended childhood vaccinations to patients ages 3 to 18.
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**Missouri Board of Pharmacy**

Question	Answer	Additional Notes
Ordering Provider?	Protocol Physician	Pharmacist must still provide on-site oversight of the vaccine administration if performed by pharmacy technicians or interns.
Protocol Update Required?	YES	In accordance with the Missouri Board of Pharmacy rules regarding Administration by Protocol.
National Technician Certification required?	YES	Technician Certification is required to be issued and accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. In addition, qualified technicians will need to have assisted in the practice of pharmacy as a registered pharmacy tech in Missouri for a minimum of 1 year.
Additional Training Requirements?	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active/Current CPR certificate</li> <li>• ACPE-accredited Immunization Training Certification (NO minimum hour requirement)</li> <li>• For pharmacy technicians - Initial and, if applicable, annual documented assessment of competency in vaccine administration.</li> </ul>
Additional general Requirements?	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pharmacy records must include technicians identity</li> <li>• Pharmacist must be <i>physically</i> present on site for interns or technicians administering vaccinations</li> </ul>
Are additional vaccines allowed in addition to COVID?	YES	All vaccines listed under the pharmacy scope of those that are allowed to be administered by protocol are included in these rules as long as they are documented properly in the pharmacy's physician-signed protocol can be given by a pharmacist, technicians, or intern.

**Missouri's COVID-19 Vaccine Statewide Standing Order**

Question	Answer	Additional Notes
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Ordering Provider?	Dr. Randall Williams	Pharmacist still must provide on-site oversight of the vaccine administration if performed by a technician or intern.
Protocol Update Required?	NO	
National Technician Certification required?	NO	
Additional Training Requirements?	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active/Current CPR certificate</li> <li>• ACPE-accredited Immunization Training Certification <b><i>at least 20 hours minimum</i></b></li> </ul>
Are additional vaccines allowed in addition to COVID?	NO	