

COVID-19 health and safety guidance

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Will getting a COVID-19 vaccine cause me to test positive for COVID-19 on a viral test?

August 2, 2021

[Faculty and staff information](#), [Health and safety](#), [Student information](#), [Vaccine](#)

No. Neither the recently authorized and recommended vaccines nor the other COVID-19 vaccines currently in clinical trials in the United States can cause you to test positive on [viral tests](#), which are used to see if you have a current infection.

If your body develops an immune response — the goal of vaccination — there is a possibility you may test positive on some [antibody tests](#). Antibody tests indicate you had a previous infection and that you may have some level of protection against the virus. Experts are currently looking at how COVID-19 vaccination may affect antibody testing results.

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