Holiday traditions are important for families. There are several ways to enjoy holiday traditions while still protecting your health. The best way to minimize COVID-19 risk and keep your family and friends safer is to get vaccinated.

On November 3, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director signed off on the recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 to 11. An estimated 28 million children are now eligible for the pediatric dose, and CDC highly recommends they get it. Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to best protect everyone from COVID-19. Parents and guardians of children in your communities have questions about the vaccine, and whether—or when—to get it. Learn more about the vaccine and how it is safe for children at VacunateHoy.org

In addition, it is important, whether vaccinated or not, to wear well-fitting masks over your nose and mouth if you are in public indoor settings. In addition, if you are sick or have symptoms, don’t host or attend a gathering. The safest option is to go get tested.

Currently, the third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna are being offered to individuals who have weakened immune systems, individuals 65 years or older, individuals age 18+ who live in long-term care settings, who have underlying medical conditions and who work or live in high-risk settings. Those 18 years or older who received the Johnson and Johnson Janssen are eligible for the booster shot at least 2 months after their first shot.

If you are considering traveling for a holiday or event, visit CDC’s Travel page to help you decide what is best for you and your family. CDC still recommends delaying travel until you are fully vaccinated.