



Special Accommodation (Sensory Safe) Clinic program in Waterloo Region

The Special Accommodation vaccination program is for anyone ages 5-17 who might have difficulty accessing COVID-19 vaccine in other settings because of special needs. Region of Waterloo Public Health has collaborated with KidsAbility to deliver a vaccination clinic that can provide you and your child with a sensory safe experience and additional supports during immunization.

Who can use the Special Accommodation (Sensory Safe) Clinic program?

The program is available for those between the ages of 5-17 years old and are:



- Individuals who have difficulty getting the vaccine in mass immunization clinics because of sensory processing disorders or challenging behaviours.
- Individuals requiring privacy or discretion for vaccination, including those with significant anxiety and fear of needles.
- Parents, caregivers, and other household family members who are eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccines are also welcome to book their vaccinations during the same appointment time.

How can you request an appointment at a Special Accommodation (Sensory Safe) clinic?



- Contact Public Health via phone 519-575-4400 or email to request a Special Accommodation appointment through our website.
- You will be sent a link with a referral form to complete.
- The form will include details about your child's special needs and what accommodations they need.
- Our scheduling team will book the appointment at one of the KidsAbility locations based on the information submitted and you will receive confirmation of the appointment via our VERTO booking system.

What to expect for the Special Accommodations clinic?



A number of locations will be customized to ensure a child-friendly environment. This includes providing sensory-friendly clinic options such as reduced noise and reduced bright lights, and setting up clinics to offer private spaces so you can be with your child when they receive the vaccine. The clinic allows extra time between appointments meaning less movement and more time for individual immunizations, questions and counselling if needed.

Questions?



If you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, please speak with your primary care provider. You can also find more information on the Region of Waterloo website. If you have questions about the Special Accommodations (Sensory Safe) Clinic Program, please contact the Service First Call Centre at 519-575-440

www.regionofwaterloo.ca/ph

519-575-4400 TTY 519-575-4608 Fax 519-883-2226