

US pilots and air traffic controllers can now take the Pfizer vaccine

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US pilots and air traffic controllers are now **allowed to take the new Pfizer Covid vaccine**. On Dec 12, the US FAA issued a statement authorizing this, which means aviation professionals can take the vaccine **without risking losing their medical certificates**. You can read the FAA's official statement [here](#).

The FAA has reviewed the @pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for use by FAA-certificated pilots and air traffic controllers, with a required 48-hour waiting period after vaccination. Read more at <https://t.co/ilQAKB3id6>. pic.twitter.com/tFC29Qkkex

— The FAA ✈️ (@FAANews) December 12, 2020

The vaccine needs two doses, three weeks apart. The FAA say you will need to **wait 48 hours after each dose before you can operate**.

All future vaccines will need a **separate approval** - the Pfizer one is the only one you can take at this stage.

Now that the Pfizer vaccine has been approved by the FDA, a huge supply chain effort is underway to get the vaccine ready for use as soon as possible. With crew likely to be carrying shipments of the vaccine, the FAA has issued a new safety alert for the **carriage of dry ice**. In big quantities this can be hazardous to crew and cause carbon dioxide poisoning if things aren't handled properly. It is also important to be aware of manufacturer limits on how much you can carry. The new SAFO provides guidance on the risks, and how operators can better protect themselves.