

# OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

## PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

- **Submit information for statewide Vaccine Provider Location search** – Providers must provide vaccine administration location addresses, public phone numbers, and websites; enrolled providers should [follow these instructions to submit or update information](#).
- **Phase 1B begins** – Vaccinations in Phase 1B began on Tuesday, Jan. 19. Governor DeWine announced a tiered system for offering vaccinations to the estimated 2.2 million people who are eligible for the vaccine under this phase, beginning with those who are 80 or older, outlined below. When a new age group begins, vaccinations may not be complete for the previous age group. It will take a number of weeks to distribute all of the vaccine given the limited doses available.
  - Jan. 19, 2021 – Ohioans 80 years of age and older.
  - Jan. 25, 2021 – Ohioans 75 years of age and older; those with a developmental or intellectual disability **AND** one of the following conditions: cerebral palsy; spina bifida; severe congenital heart disease requiring hospitalization within the past year; severe type 1 diabetes requiring hospitalization within the past year; inherited metabolic disorders including phenylketonuria; severe neurological disorders including epilepsy, hydrocephaly, and microcephaly; severe genetic disorders including Down syndrome, fragile X syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, Turner syndrome, and muscular dystrophy; severe lung disease, including asthma requiring hospitalization within the past year, and cystic fibrosis; sickle cell anemia; and alpha and beta thalassemia; and solid organ transplant patients. If people believe they fit in this category, they should contact their local board of developmental disabilities, which will help coordinate vaccinations.
  - Feb. 1, 2021 – Ohioans 70 years of age and older; employees of K-12 schools that wish to remain or return to in-person or hybrid models.
  - Feb. 8, 2021 – Ohioans 65 years of age and older.
  - Feb. 15, 2021 – Ohioans with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset, and inherited conditions listed above. If people believe they fit in this category, they should contact their local board of developmental disabilities, which will help coordinate vaccinations.
- **Vaccinations for those with qualifying medical conditions** - Local boards of developmental disabilities will reach out to individuals who meet eligibility requirements to coordinate vaccinations. These boards will work with children’s hospitals and some local health departments on scheduling. Only those individuals identified and scheduled by the local developmental disabilities board will be eligible for vaccination at the local health department or children’s hospital.
- **Vaccine allocation** – Vaccines are in short supply in Ohio and across the country. Each week, the federal government will inform Ohio of its statewide vaccine allocation for the following week, and thereafter, providers will be notified of how many doses of vaccine they will receive. Flexibility continues to be key in vaccine planning.
- **Expectation to immediately vaccinate** – ODH expects providers to administer all of the vaccine they receive within seven days of receipt. Providers who are unable to administer all of their vaccine within the same week the shipment arrives should not hold the unused vaccine in reserve, but must work with other enrolled providers in their area to ensure unused vaccine is administered, following ODH’s [COVID-19 Vaccine Redistribution Guidance for Enrolled COVID-19 Vaccine Providers](#). If ODH observes a pattern in which vaccines are not administered, a provider’s next vaccination allocation may be reduced.
- **Vaccinating the vaccinators** – Vaccinating the vaccinators is important and appropriate. Please limit use of allocated vaccine to no more than 5% for the purpose of vaccinating your staff (ex. 5 out of 100 doses may be used for vaccinators).

## RESOURCES

### HOW TO ENROLL

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Enrollment Information](#)

### PROVIDER RESOURCES

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Resource Page](#)

[FAQ for Health Providers](#)

### PFIZER RESOURCES

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Providers](#)

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Patients](#)

### MODERNA RESOURCES

[EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccination Providers](#)

[EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

[Additional Moderna Resources](#)

### VACCINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

This [toolkit](#) will be expanded with additional resources but is being provided now to support your immediate needs.

## TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials.

- Ohio is prepared to distribute **safe** and **effective** COVID-19 vaccines statewide. We have two clear goals: To save lives and slow the spread of the virus.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or measles vaccine. The FDA and independent medical experts have ensured that every detail of these vaccines are thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Initially, there will be a limited number of vaccines available, and Ohio is committed to making the vaccine widely available, for those who want to receive it, as quickly as possible as shipments arrive.
- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as a part of phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death and will allow Ohioans to get closer to a sense of normalcy.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures coupled with the vaccine will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- Vaccines are in short supply in Ohio and across the country. Each week, the federal government will inform Ohio of its statewide vaccine allocation, and providers will be notified of how many doses of vaccine they will be receiving the following week.
- While we know that many people in our community are eager to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, we must be patient while demand for the vaccine remains higher than the available supply. As vaccine supply increases, we will be able to vaccinate more of those in Phase 1B, and eventually, all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated will be able to receive COVID-19 vaccines.
- Side effects are mild. The most common side effects include fatigue, headache, soreness or redness at the injection site, and muscle or joint pain, and should not prevent you from getting a vaccine that can prevent you from catching or spreading this deadly virus.

## RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC

[coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine)

[Ohio's Phased Approach](#)

[Phase 1A Vaccine Distribution Graphic](#) and [Fact Sheet](#)

[Phase 1B Distribution Graphic](#)

[COVID-19 Myths vs. Facts](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ](#)

## CDC RESOURCES

[Communications Toolkit for Medical Centers, Clinics and Clinicians](#)

[Vaccinate with Confidence](#)

[Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)

[Understanding COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines](#)

[About V-Safe](#)

[Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[Who Gets Vaccinated First?](#)

[What to Expect at Your Vaccine Appointment](#)

[Ensuring Safety of Vaccines](#)

[Different Vaccines](#)

## SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- In the early vaccination phase, supply will be limited. As the number of available doses increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated. See more about Ohio's phased approach [\[Link\]](#)  
Learn more [\[Link\]](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine) <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine> [\[Suggested graphic: Ohio's Phased Approach\]](#)
- We know you've got questions about the #COVID19 vaccine, like when and where you can get it in our community. Learn this and more on our local #COVID19 vaccine page [\[Link\]](#) [\[Link to provider or local landing page with more information\]](#)
- Vaccine supply will be limited. As the number of available doses increases, #COVID19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated. Stay informed with [\[Link to provider or local landing page with more information\]](#)
- Trust the FACTS: #COVID19 vaccines won't change your DNA, alter your genetic makeup, or implant you with a tracking chip. See more debunked myths at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.
- The Internet is filled with dangerous misinformation about #COVID19 vaccines, and it can be difficult to know what to trust. The best thing you can do is educate yourself about the vaccines with trustworthy information. Learn more [\[Link\]](https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths) <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>
- FACT: #COVID19 vaccines weren't rushed and have been thoroughly vetted through a rigorous safety assessment involving independent medical professionals. See more myths vs. facts at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.