



COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ

March 10, 2021

COLLABORATE. INNOVATE. ACCELERATE.

In the almost three months since COVID-19 vaccine distribution began in the United States, more than 93 million doses have been administered, reaching roughly 18% of the population. On February 27, 2021, after determining the vaccine's known and potential benefits outweigh known and potential risks, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved emergency authorization of the one-dose Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is the third vaccine to be approved by the FDA, increasing public health officials' ability to vaccinate as many people as possible before the virus mutates again or highly contagious, already-existing COVID-19 variants take hold – events that would make the pandemic worse and possibly stall current efforts to reopen. In an effort to provide the latest information and guidance to housing practitioners wanting to support residents interested in receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, SAHF created this fact sheet to serve as a resource.

Who is eligible to receive the vaccine right now?

Current distribution efforts vary widely from state to state and even county by county. While the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided guidelines as to what order different populations should receive the vaccine, depending on supply, states and counties vary as to which priority groups they are currently vaccinating.

In late 2020, **all 64 public health immunization programs in the U.S.**, including the territories, the District of Columbia, and the cities of Chicago, Houston, New York City, Philadelphia, and San Antonio, **were required to develop COVID-19 vaccine distribution plans based on current CDC guidance.** While these plans will continue to evolve as more of the vaccine becomes available, each jurisdiction outlined how they will prioritize who will receive the vaccine during these first few months. Some jurisdictions, like San Antonio and North Carolina, specifically cited an intent to prioritize historically marginalized communities who may lack access to quality healthcare services or who have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

How do I locate vaccine updates for my jurisdiction?

Click on the links below to access the latest information about COVID-19 vaccine availability for each jurisdiction. Most websites include eligibility updates and current phase of vaccine distribution. Some (e.g. Chicago, Florida, and Wisconsin) even include maps of COVID-19 vaccine locations or county-specific rollout plans (e.g. Nevada and Wyoming).



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| Alabama | Alaska | American Samoa | Arizona | Arkansas | California |
| Chicago | Colorado | Connecticut | Delaware | District of Columbia | Florida |
| Georgia | Guam | Hawai'i | Houston | Idaho | Illinois |
| Indiana | Iowa | Kansas | Kentucky | Louisiana | Maine |
| Marshall Islands | Maryland | Massachusetts | Michigan | Micronesia | Minnesota |
| Mississippi | Missouri | Montana | Nebraska | Nevada | New Hampshire |
| New Jersey | New Mexico | New York | New York City | North Carolina | North Dakota |
| Northern Mariana Islands | Ohio | Oklahoma | Oregon | Palau | Pennsylvania |
| Philadelphia | Rhode Island | Puerto Rico | San Antonio | South Carolina | South Dakota |
| Tennessee | Texas | Utah | Vermont | Virgin Islands | Virginia |
| Washington | West Virginia | Wisconsin | Wyoming | | |

When will the vaccine be eligible to everyone?

As of March 9, 2021, Alaska is the first state who has opened vaccine eligibility to all residents and workers who are 16 years of age or older. The timeline for other states is unknown, with some health experts predicting that widespread vaccine eligibility in the U.S. may occur by summer 2021. As vaccine availability increases, more people will be able to be vaccinated.

Where can I find the most up-to-date national data on COVID vaccine administration and delivery?

CDC updates their [COVID vaccinations tracker](#) daily by 8 PM Eastern Time. The tracker also provides data on doses administered by type (e.g. Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson) and by state or territory (as reported to CDC).

Why have some 202 properties been able to host onsite COVID-19 vaccination clinics?

Through the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care (LTC) Program, CDC is partnering with CVS, Walgreens, and Managed Health Care Associates, Inc. (MHA) to offer onsite COVID-19 vaccination services for residents of nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and “similar congregate living setting for individuals older than 65 years of age”. Owners of 202 properties who were interested in hosting a vaccination clinic through this program had the opportunity to



sign up for the program in November 2020. However, per the CDC, enrollment in the program is not an order for vaccine or a guarantee of vaccination services. Enrolling a 202 property simply signaled that your facility is willing to receive vaccines from CVS, Walgreens, or a participating MHA pharmacy once the vaccine became available **and if** your facility is eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine under ACIP recommendations. In many places, eligibility is determined at the county level and may even vary county by county.

As more vaccines become available, CVS, Walgreens, or a participating MHA pharmacy will reach out directly to your facility/ property to schedule and coordinate onsite vaccination clinics. In some jurisdictions, health departments, federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), and hospitals have also been reaching out to housing providers and other community partners to host clinics or connect residents to local vaccination campaigns as vaccine administration capacity and supply grows. This type of outreach varies widely by jurisdiction.

For more information about Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care Program, go to the [CDC website](#). LeadingAge has also put together information about the program in their [FAQs and Resources on COVID-19 Vaccines and Issues Surrounding Vaccinations fact sheet](#), starting on page 4.

In the meantime, what information can I provide residents? Do they have to continue with other COVID precautions, such as wearing a mask and staying at least 6 feet away from others, if they have already been fully vaccinated?

Immunization with a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine is a critical component of the United States' strategy to reduce COVID-19-related illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths and to help put an end to the pandemic. Even as people get the vaccine, it will be important for everyone to continue to use all the tools available to help stop this pandemic, like **covering their mouth and nose with a mask, washing their hands, staying at least 6 feet away from others, staying away from crowds, and avoiding poorly ventilated spaces**. This is especially important in the following situations, and as others wait to get their COVID vaccine:

- in a public setting;
- when gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one other household; or
- when visiting with an unvaccinated person who is at increased risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19 or who lives with a person at increased risk.

You may direct residents to the state and local public health resources above or [CDC's COVID-19 vaccine webpage](#) to learn more. The Public Health Communications Collaborative, a



partnership of CDC Foundation, de Beaumont Foundation, and Trust for America's Health, has also developed a [Now What? fact sheet](#) providing answers to five of the most frequently-asked questions people may ask after receiving a COVID vaccine. The fact sheet is also available in [Spanish](#).

On March 8, 2021, CDC has released [interim public health recommendations for people who are fully vaccinated](#). Fully vaccinated individuals can now:

- "Visit with **other fully vaccinated people** indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Visit with unvaccinated people **from a single household who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease** indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Refrain from quarantine and testing following a known exposure [to COVID-19] **if asymptomatic**"

As of this writing, **fully vaccinated individuals should continue to avoid medium or large-sized gatherings and delay domestic and international travel**. Owners and operators of multifamily housing should also direct their attention to CDC's [Considerations for Owners and Operators of Multifamily Housing Including Populations at Increased Risk for Complications from COVID-19 webpage](#), which was recently updated and provides guidance on how to create a safe living environment and prevent the spread of COVID-19, even as vaccinations increase.

When are vaccine recipients considered fully vaccinated?

Per the CDC, people are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose of a 2-dose vaccine, like the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines,
- OR**
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, like Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.