



COVID-19

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# CDC's COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout Recommendations

Updated Feb. 19, 2021

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## How Do I Get a Vaccine?

CDC makes recommendations for [who should get the vaccine first](#), then each state makes its own plan.

**Choose your state or territory below to find your health department:**

Select State / Territory ▾

Because the U.S. supply of COVID-19 vaccine is expected to be limited at first, CDC is providing recommendations to federal, state, and local governments about who should be vaccinated first. CDC's recommendations are based on those from the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#), an independent panel of medical and public health experts.

The recommendations were made with these goals in mind:

- Decrease death and serious disease as much as possible.
- Preserve functioning of society.
- Reduce the extra burden COVID-19 is having on people already facing disparities.

While CDC makes recommendations for who should be offered COVID-19 vaccine first, each state has its own plan for deciding who will be vaccinated first and how they can receive vaccines. Please [contact your local health department](#) for more information on COVID-19 vaccination in your area.

# Healthcare personnel and residents of long-term care facilities should be offered the first doses of COVID-19 vaccines (1a)

CDC recommends that initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine be allocated to healthcare personnel and long-term care facility residents. This is referred to as Phase 1a. Phases may overlap. CDC [made this recommendation](#) on December 3, 2020.

## Healthcare Personnel

Learn more about why it's important that healthcare personnel get vaccinated and who is included.

## Long-term Care Facility Residents

Learn more about why it's important that residents of long-term care facilities get vaccinated and who is included.

# Groups who should be offered vaccination next (1b and 1c)

CDC recommends that in Phase 1b and Phase 1c, which may overlap, vaccination should be offered to people in the following groups. CDC made [this recommendation](#) on December 22, 2020.

## Phase 1b

- **Frontline essential workers** such as fire fighters, police officers, corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, United States Postal Service workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the educational sector (teachers, support staff, and daycare workers.)
- **People aged 75 years and older** because they are at high risk of hospitalization, illness, and death from COVID-19. People aged 75 years and older who are also residents of long-term care facilities should be offered vaccination in Phase 1a.

## Phase 1c

- **People aged 65—74 years** because they are at high risk of hospitalization, illness, and death from COVID-19. People aged 65—74 years who are also residents of long-term care facilities should be offered vaccination in Phase 1a.
- **People aged 16—64 years with underlying medical conditions** which increase the risk of serious, life-threatening complications from COVID-19.
- **Other essential workers**, such as people who work in transportation and logistics, food service, housing construction and finance, information technology, communications, energy, law, media, public safety, and public health.

# As vaccine availability increases, vaccination recommendations will expand to include more groups

The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get a COVID-19 vaccination as soon as large enough quantities of vaccine are available. As vaccine supply increases but remains limited, ACIP will expand the groups recommended for vaccination.

## More Information

[Vaccine Considerations for People who are Pregnant or Breastfeeding](#)

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[How CDC Is Making COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations](#)

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[Role of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices in CDC's Vaccine Recommendations](#)

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Content source: [National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases \(NCIRD\), Division of Viral Diseases](#)