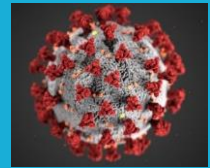




The following document is for historical purposes and is no longer being updated. Please go to the [COVID-19 Vaccination Clinical & Professional Resources](#) for more recent information.



# South Carolina INTERIM COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN



## Executive Summary - DRAFT

10/22/2020

### Introduction

To ensure access and equitable distribution of the COVID-19 Vaccination to the people of South Carolina Team South Carolina came together to write an interagency operational plan. COVID-19 Vaccine plan development was a collaborative effort among select members of the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) and professional associations. A tabletop exercise was conducted on October 14, 2020, SERT members talked through roles and responsibilities, highlighting their capabilities, limitations, and information still needed on the vaccine to finalize plans. Lessons-learned from exercise hot washes and after-action reports (AAR) will be incorporated into the COVID-19 vaccine plan.

### COVID-19 Vaccination Planning Sections:

#### Phased Approach to COVID-19 Vaccination

South Carolina is anticipating implementing a three-phase approach. In Phase 1, South Carolina expects limited vaccine availability, focusing on equitable distribution to targeted populations utilizing a limited number of providers. In anticipation of increasing vaccine supplies, Phase 2, South Carolina will continue to identify and quantify target populations and expand provider enrollment to serve targeted groups. In Phase 3, the vaccine will be available in sufficient quantities. DHEC, in conjunction with traditional and non-traditional vaccination providers, will ensure that distribution channels are engaged and prepared to provide the vaccine to anyone desiring it.

#### Critical Populations

DHEC is closely monitoring guidance put forth by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the National Institutes of Health, and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) regarding identified populations of focus for COVID-19 vaccination. In the event of insufficient vaccination supply, DHEC will prioritize vaccine allocation to the initial subsets outlined by the CDC. The South Carolina Vaccine Advisory Committee will provide recommendations that DHEC will consider for sub-prioritization within these groups. Messaging and outreach to engage targeted groups are under development.

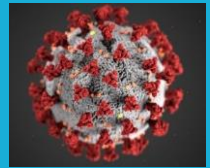
#### COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Recruitment and Enrollment

DHEC will recruit and enroll in traditional and non-traditional vaccination providers. South Carolina will utilize an online enrollment process to streamline the collection of information from interested providers. Upon approval, providers are prioritized based on the provider's ability to vaccinate target populations. Approved providers can be active in more than one phase.

#### COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling

Providers will be required to follow the vaccine storage and handling guidelines in the CDC Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit Addendum for the COVID-19 vaccine, including the procedures for

# South Carolina INTERIM COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN



transport, mobile clinics, and temperature excursions. Upon enrollment, DHEC's Enrollment Team verifies the provider's capacity and provides educational resources to providers.

## COVID-19 Vaccination Second-Dose Reminders

Staff will inform recipients that they may receive dose reminders via text or email through VAMS or immunization registry reminder efforts. Enrolled pandemic vaccine providers and organizational/employer participants will be encouraged to use their second dose reminders' mechanisms. COVID-19 vaccination record cards will be available at each site for each vaccine recipient, including a suggested date.

## COVID-19 Vaccination Program Communication

Efforts are underway to help keep the public informed on the COVID-19 vaccine; this includes incorporating educational messaging into agency talking points, news releases, and social media copy. The Joint Information Center (JIC) has currently targeted communications efforts at reaching the general population, state and local leaders, and key stakeholders and partners. The JIC will tailor communications to address the initial populations' specific needs identified to be impacted by each phase of the program's role.

## COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Monitoring

DHEC will utilize the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) for vaccine safety activities. DHEC receives VAERS reports and collaborates with the CDC Immunization Safety Office (ISO) to respond and investigate reports of serious adverse events and other vaccine safety issues of concerns following state policy.

## COVID-19 Vaccination Program Monitoring

DHEC will monitor outputs including: the number of providers targeted, enrolled, and activated for each vaccination phase; the daily number of clinics by geographic location, population type served; vaccination coverage, and dose completion rates stratified by targeted population variables (e.g., age, race, occupation); the rate for completing the reporting requirements by the specified deadlines; the number of doses administered stratified by geographic region/county, vaccine orders placed, fulfilled, and received.

## Additional Information

For more information please visit: <https://scdhec.gov/covid19/covid-19-vaccination>.