

COVID-19 Information for Local Health Departments

Phase 1B Vaccination Plan: K-12 Employees and People with Congenital, Early-Onset, and Inherited Conditions

Governor Mike DeWine has made a commitment to prioritize the vaccination of Ohio's most vulnerable populations and to ensure that K-12 schools are able to safely provide in-person education by March 1. As part of this commitment, Phase 1B of Ohio's COVID-19 vaccination plan includes eligibility for employees in K-12 schools and for people with a qualifying congenital, early-onset, or inherited condition. Some local health districts/departments (LHDs) will assist in administering vaccines for these populations. Please see below for guidance.

An important note: Vaccine is scarce, and it may take time for everyone eligible to be vaccinated.

Eligibility dates for these groups are as follows.

- **Beginning Jan. 25:** People with a developmental or intellectual disability **AND** a qualifying congenital, early-onset, or inherited condition.
- **Beginning Feb. 1:** Employees in K-12 schools.
- **Beginning Feb. 15:** Anyone with a qualifying congenital, early-onset, or inherited condition (including those **without** a developmental or intellectual disability). Qualifying medical conditions can be found [here](#).

These groups are **not eligible** for vaccine during Phase 1B:

- People with developmental or intellectual disability who DO NOT have a co-occurring congenital, early-onset, or inherited condition.

The following guidance is applicable for groups eligible during the weeks of Jan. 25, Feb. 1, and Feb. 8. Guidance will be forthcoming for those who become eligible on Feb. 15.

Information for vaccinating people with a developmental or intellectual disability AND a qualifying congenital, early-onset, or inherited condition.

- Qualifying medical conditions can be found [here](#).
- County boards of developmental disabilities, LHDs, and children's hospitals are partnering to vaccinate this population.
 - County boards of developmental disabilities:
 - Have identified eligible individuals and are coordinating vaccination efforts with local health district partners and children's hospital partners.
 - Will serve as a "care coordinators" to assist with scheduling/registering for vaccination appointments and arranging transportation or support services as necessary.
 - Children's hospitals:

- Have volunteered to serve as vaccinators for this population in specific cases.
- Have started reaching out to local developmental disabilities boards and health departments in their service areas to aid in coordinating vaccine administration.
- May assist by hosting vaccination clinics or appointments.
- Local health districts:
 - May assist by planning for appointment availability, hosting vaccination clinics, or coordinating the effort.

County boards of Developmental Disabilities will identify populations and coordinate connecting consumers with LHDs and children's hospitals for vaccine administration.

- If your local coordinating process identified more than 100 qualifying people who meet the eligibility requirements, the state will be providing additional doses to you this week unless other arrangements have already been made.
- The state will be contacting entities that received vaccine to follow-up on throughput and additional dosage needs.
- For LHDs with fewer than 100 eligible individuals each week, please use any 1A or 1B doses you have available that are not already committed.
- If you need additional vaccine, please notify the state.

Information for vaccinating people, starting Feb. 15, who have a qualifying congenital, early-onset, or inherited condition (without a developmental or intellectual disability) will be forthcoming.

Information for vaccinating K-12 school employees.

Beginning the week of Feb. 1, K-12 school employees who are necessary to the operation of in-person instruction for students (teachers, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, environmental services, etc.) will be eligible for vaccination.

- Schools are designating a partner who will administer vaccinations to their staff. This process is being directed locally by educational service centers (ESCs). If an LHD has been selected as a partner for any K-12 school districts/schools, the LHD will:
 - Be notified of the designation and receive information about a school/district's designated week for first doses.
 - Be required to complete a survey of the expected number of recipients at each school district and be given a deadline for submitting that information. NOTE: This step is critical. Vaccine is scarce and vaccine should not sit on the shelf or go unused after allocation.
 - Receive an allocation from the state for the designated week(s). **This allocation will be separate from and in addition to your regular 1B allocation.** (The LHD will be notified of the arrival date by Pfizer or Moderna the weekend before the doses are received. It is important that LHDs take this into account when planning. Pfizer doses typically arrive on Mondays or Tuesdays, and Moderna doses generally arrive on Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays.)
- In most cases, K-12 vaccinations should be administered at sites separate from vaccination sites used for older Ohioans who are also eligible in Phase 1B.
 - For example, depending on the established partnership, K-12 vaccines may be administered on-site at school buildings, at large retail-partner vaccination sites, or other settings.

NOTE: Week #1 schools have been notified. Others will be notified soon.

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For more information on COVID-19, please visit coronavirus.ohio.gov

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

Your mental health is just as important as your physical health. If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call the COVID-19 CareLine at 1-800-720-9616.