

## COVID-19 Vaccination Facts; WHY, WHEN and HOW

### 1. COVID-19 vaccination will help keep you from getting COVID-19

- COVID-19 vaccines are being carefully evaluated in clinical trials and will be authorized or approved only if they make it substantially less likely you'll get COVID-19.
- Based on what we know about vaccines for other diseases, experts believe that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19.
- Getting vaccinated yourself may also protect people around you, [particularly people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19](#). The most recent population numbers available show that almost 2 out of 10 Jamestown residents are at increased risk.
- Experts continue to conduct more studies about the effect of COVID-19 vaccination on severity of illness from COVID-19, as well as its ability to keep people from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccination will be a safer way to help build protection

- COVID-19 can have [serious, life-threatening complications](#), and there is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you. And if you get sick, you could spread the disease to friends, family, and others around you.
- Clinical trials of COVID-19 vaccines must first show they are safe and effective before any vaccine can be authorized or approved for use. The known and potential benefits of a COVID-19 vaccine must outweigh the known and potential risks of the vaccine for use under what is known as an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). [Watch a video on what an EUA is](#).
- Getting COVID-19 may offer some natural protection, known as immunity. But experts don't know how long this protection lasts, and the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 far outweighs any benefits of natural immunity. COVID-19 vaccination will help protect you by creating an antibody response without having to experience sickness beyond some commonly reported symptoms like a sore arm or headache experienced by some after receiving the vaccine.
- Both natural immunity and immunity produced by a vaccine are important aspects of COVID-19 that experts are trying to learn more about, and [the](#) CDC will keep the public informed as new evidence becomes available.

COVID-19 vaccination will be an important tool to help stop the pandemic

- Wearing masks and social distancing help reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus or spreading it to others, but these measures are not enough. Vaccines will work with your immune system so it will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed.
- The combination of getting vaccinated and following CDC's recommendations [to protect yourself and others](#) will offer the best protection from COVID-19.
- Stopping a pandemic requires using all the tools we have available. As experts learn more about how COVID-19 vaccination may help reduce spread of the disease in communities, CDC will continue to update the recommendations to protect communities using the latest science.

## 2. When, Where and How to get Vaccinated:

Colorado is currently vaccinating eligible Coloradans for Phase 1. After all of Phase 1 is complete, we will proceed with Phase 2 and 3.

### COVID-19 vaccine distribution table

\*Timeline subject to change based on supply chain. Prioritization subject to change based on data, science, availability.

| Phases            | Eligibility   |
|-------------------|---|
| Phase 1A - Winter | <b>Highest-risk health care workers and individuals:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People who have direct contact with COVID-19 patients for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.</li><li>• Long-term care facility staff and residents.</li></ul>   |
| Phase 1B - Winter | <b>Coloradans age 70+, moderate-risk health care workers, first responders, frontline essential workers, and continuity of state government:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health care workers with less direct contact with COVID-19 patients (e.g. home health, hospice, pharmacy, dental, etc.) and EMS.</li><li>• Firefighters, police, COVID-19 response personnel, correctional workers, and funeral services.</li><li>• People age 70 and older.</li><li>• Frontline essential workers in education, food and agriculture, manufacturing, U.S. postal service, public transit and specialized transportation staff, grocery, public health, frontline essential human service workers, and direct care providers for Coloradans experiencing homelessness.</li><li>• Essential officials from executive, legislative and judicial branches of state government.</li><li>• Essential frontline journalists.</li></ul> |
| Phase 2 - Spring  | <b>Higher-risk individuals:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People age 60 to 69.</li><li>• People age 16 to 59 with obesity, diabetes, chronic lung disease, significant heart disease, chronic kidney disease, cancer, or who are immunocompromised.</li><li>• Other essential workers and continuity of local government.</li></ul>   |
| Phase 3 - Summer  | <b>General public:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anyone age 16-59 without high risk conditions.</li></ul>   |

## 3. How to contact providers (for Coloradans 70+)

The following information has been provided by each hospital system, facility, public health agency, or provider.

### Boulder Community Health

All vaccination notification and scheduling will be done through the MyBCH patient portal. The quickest and most efficient way to schedule a vaccination from Boulder Community Health is to use a MyBCH account. If you already have a MyBCH account, you should check that your personal information is up to date.

If you need to set up an account, you can do that at [Boulder Community Health's website](#). You do not need to be a current BCH patient to establish a MyBCH account. General questions about setting up the account should be sent to this email: [MyBCH@bch.org](mailto:MyBCH@bch.org).

### Centura Health

- [Provider search](#)
- [COVID-19 information center](#)

If you are a Centura Health patient, you will receive an invitation when it is your time to receive the vaccine through MyCenturaHealth, their patient portal. These invitations will be sent based on the state tiering system, starting with patients age 70 and over. An appointment is required to receive the COVID-

19 vaccine and walk-ins cannot be accommodated. Use their [vaccine notification sign-up form](#) to receive additional information and instructions about the vaccine through email and/or text message. Coloradans can take action now by establishing care with a Centura Health Physician Group primary care provider in their area.

### **Kaiser Permanente**

For Kaiser Permanente members 70+ (and others in eligible 1A and 1B categories) visit [Kaiser Permanente's vaccine webpage](#) to complete the "COVID-19 vaccine sign up." Upon providing your information to them, you will be placed on a first-come, first-served wait list for the vaccine based on your eligibility.

### **SCL Health (Good Samaritan)**

SCL Health is currently contacting patients age 70 and older who are currently receiving care at a SCL Health facility. Information is being emailed to these patients guiding them to use the MyChart online patient portal to make a vaccination appointment. These invitations are being sent in a phased fashion based on the state tiering system.

Individuals interested in receiving the vaccine should consider creating an SCL Health MyChart account for the fastest, easiest experience. Visit [MyChart.SCLHealth.org](http://MyChart.SCLHealth.org) to create an account and schedule an appointment if you are eligible and one is available or download the SCL Health MyChart app

An appointment is REQUIRED to receive the COVID-19 vaccine at a SCL Health facility -- walk-up vaccinations ARE NOT available. If you are 70 and older and would like more information about registering for COVID-19 vaccination at a SCL Health facility, log on to [SCL Health's website](#) or call or call 303-812-2051 for details.

### **UCHealth**

[UCHealth](#) is using My Health Connection, their online patient portal, to communicate with patients. If you do not have an active My Health Connection account or are new to UCHealth, [sign up to be placed on a list](#) to receive the COVID-19 vaccine when it is available for your phase, according to the state's plan.

**Boulder County Public Health is coordinating with Pharmacies such as Walgreens, and supermarket chains with pharmacies. They are also considering drive through and walk up centers where persons can make an appointment. Currently the county's weekly allocation is not sufficient to support a higher level of vaccinations.**

**Sign up to be notified: Boulder County residents can sign up to be notified when vaccine is available to your priority group at <https://bouldercounty.wufoo.com/forms/z14hos8502vdgir/>.**

### **How much will it cost?**

It will be free. Cost will not be an obstacle to getting the vaccine. Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance are required to cover the cost of the COVID-19 vaccines. In addition, uninsured Coloradans will have access to free vaccines.

More importantly, a vaccine provider may not turn you away for the vaccine because of an inability to pay or your medical coverage status. "