

# COVID-19 VACCINE ELIGIBILITY



## WHAT TO KNOW

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is working to get COVID-19 vaccine to Wisconsinites as quickly, fairly, and safely as possible. Wisconsin is currently getting a limited amount of vaccine. As a result, certain groups of people who are more at risk for COVID-19 are eligible for the vaccine.

### **What groups are eligible?**

- Frontline health care personnel
- Residents and staff in skilled nursing and long-term care facilities
- Police and fire personnel, correctional staff
- Adults age 65 and older
- Educators and child care
- Members in Medicaid long-term care programs
- Some public-facing essential workers
- Non-frontline essential health care personnel
- Facility staff and residents in congregate living settings
- Individuals age 16 and older with certain medical conditions known to be associated with an increased risk of severe illness caused by COVID-19

More details about eligible groups and who this includes is available at [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-about.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-about.htm).

### **When will the general public become eligible?**

Based on the recent and anticipated increases in vaccine availability, DHS anticipates the general public will be eligible for the vaccine by April 5.

### **I am eligible now. How do I know where to get vaccinated?**

There are many vaccinators across the state and each community will have different options for where to get the vaccine. Possible options include your primary doctor, local pharmacy, or a community-based clinic. Check with your local public health department to find out what is available in your community. The main vaccinator for each eligible group is also available at [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-get.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-get.htm).

### **How will I know when my group is eligible?**

The DHS website and social media pages will have up to date information on who is eligible at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-about.htm>.

## **Why are we starting new groups when we have not finished others?**

It is very important that we vaccinate as many people as quickly as possible. Starting groups while finishing others allows vaccinators to continue moving forward with vaccine efforts to increase community immunity and get vaccines into arms. Everyone who is eligible now will still be eligible to get the vaccine.

## **Will I get the vaccine right away once I'm eligible?**

Right now, there is a limited supply of vaccine. This means that we all need to be patient and understand it will take time to get through each eligible group. Wisconsin has a large network of vaccinators ready to do more as soon as we get more vaccine.

## **My partner, spouse, or roommate is eligible to get the vaccine. Am I eligible too?**

No. Eligibility applies only to those who are in eligible groups.

## **I am undocumented. If I'm part of a group that is currently eligible, can I get the vaccine?**

Yes, if you are part of a group that is currently eligible, you can get vaccinated. President Biden has stated that all people in the U.S. – regardless of their immigration status – can get the vaccine. The [U.S. Department of Homeland Security also supports](#) vaccine access for undocumented immigrants. Vaccinators cannot require proof of residency or ID to get the vaccine.

## **I am not a permanent resident of Wisconsin. Can I get the vaccine?**

People who live, work, or study in Wisconsin, and belong to a current eligibility group, may get the COVID-19 vaccine in Wisconsin.

## **I am public-facing, but am not on this list. Am I eligible?**

Not at this time. Those eligible to get the vaccine today can be found at [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-about.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-about.htm). Check the DHS website for updates on future eligible groups.

