COVID-19 Vaccination
A PHASED APPROACH

DHS is working to get COVID-19 vaccine to Wisconsinites as equitably, quickly, and safely as possible. Until vaccine supply is able to meet demand, the vaccine will be rolled out in phases. This means that certain groups of people will receive it before other groups.

WHY A PHASED APPROACH?

Limited supply
Vaccinations are prioritized for specific groups of people with a higher risk of COVID-19 infection.

Planning and logistics
Thoughtful planning must take place prior to administering vaccines. Logistical considerations include funding, staffing, and space needed to efficiently administer COVID-19 vaccine.

Ensuring vaccination safety
A phased approach to vaccine distribution ensures vaccinators are not overwhelmed with more people than they can safely vaccinate at one time.

HOW ARE GROUPS PRIORITIZED FOR RECEIVING COVID-19 VACCINE?

ACIP proposes eligibility criteria for populations to receive vaccine. The criteria are reviewed and adopted by the Centers for Disease Control.

SDMAC reviews the proposed eligibility criteria and provides recommendations based on Wisconsin's population and unique needs.

DHS reviews recommendations from both ACIP and SDMAC to determine which groups will be eligible to receive vaccine for each phase.

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP): A committee within the CDC that provides advice and guidance regarding vaccine use.

Wisconsin State Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC): A committee of medical professionals who develop guidance for the equitable and fair delivery of medical services during a declared public health emergency.
The COVID-19 vaccine will be distributed in Wisconsin in multiple phases.

People who are at higher risk of exposure to COVID-19 or at high risk of developing severe illness from COVID-19 infection will be prioritized to receive the vaccine.

Phases may overlap as the vaccine supply increases over time.

**WHEN WILL I BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE COVID-19 VACCINE?**

We understand that many Wisconsinites are eager to get the COVID-19 vaccine. It will take time to get everyone vaccinated and that timeline depends on the vaccine supply. As more vaccine becomes available we anticipate expanding vaccination to other populations.

**HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN I AM ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE COVID-19 VACCINE?**

- You may receive information from your employer about receiving the vaccine.
- You may be contacted by your health care provider about scheduling an appointment to receive the vaccine.
- Stay up to date on SDMAC and DHS recommendations to know if you are a part of an upcoming priority population.

**HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF UNTIL I GET VACCINATED?**

While many Wisconsinites continue to wait their turn to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, we urge you to do your part to stop the spread of COVID-19. Get tested if you are feeling ill or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. Please continue to:

- Physically distance
- Stay home
- Wear your mask
- Practice good hand hygiene

**Additional Resources**

- DHS COVID-19 vaccine webpage: [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm)
- Attend SDMACs virtual public meetings: [https://publicmeetings.wi.gov](https://publicmeetings.wi.gov)
- Visit [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm), to join our email list to receive weekly email updates about the COVID-19 response in Wisconsin