On March 1, all staff in child care settings will be eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine. We anticipate vaccinating educators throughout March and April. The vaccine is free to everyone currently eligible regardless of whether or not you have health insurance. There is a limited amount of vaccine doses available, so it will take months to vaccinate everyone who is eligible however, education and child care is our first priority in the newly eligible populations.

If you are able to work from home or do not have to interact with the public, please let your fellow Wisconsinites who have a higher risk of exposure to COVID-19 get vaccinated first.

Who is considered a child care worker?

- All staff in regulated child care, public and private school programs, out-of-school time programs, virtual learning support, and community learning center programs
- All staff in Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCAs.
- All staff in preschool and Head Start through K-12 education settings

I am eligible for the vaccine. When can I get vaccinated?

Vaccine providers are still prioritizing previously eligible groups, such as individuals age 65 and older, before vaccinating groups eligible on March 1. Based on the amount of vaccine doses available, it will take months for all newly eligible groups to get vaccinated, however, education staff are the first priority in the newly eligible populations.

Every community is different. Some places may be able to start vaccinating your group earlier than others. But everyone will eventually have the opportunity to get vaccinated.

Where can I get vaccinated?

Each local health department has submitted a local-specific plan to DHS detailing how they will vaccinate staff of K-12 schools and child care in their communities. DHS will be setting aside a portion of vaccine doses each week for educators. The vaccination plans could include getting vaccinated:

- At a community clinic
- At a health care provider
- With a pharmacy

We ask for your patience.

It will take some time for everyone to get vaccinated. That is why you will need to continue doing your part to protect yourself and your loved ones. This means taking extra steps to stop the spread of COVID-19 even after you are vaccinated. Wear your mask, keep 6 feet apart from others, if possible, and wash your hand.

To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine, eligibility, or to find frequently asked questions, visit www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm.