

Bulletin: Updates on Maryland's COVID-19 Vaccine Plan (Week 21 Allocation)

To: All COVID-19 Vaccine Providers Registered in ImmuNet, including but not limited

to Hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), and Local Health

Departments

From: Bryan Mroz, Assistant Secretary, Maryland Department of Health (MDH)

Date: April 30, 2021

- Please review the latest <u>Vaccination Matters Order (03/22/2021)</u>. We encourage every provider to make use of every resource to ensure a successful vaccination campaign.
- All COVID-19 vaccine providers are required to administer COVID-19 vaccine according to the following updated guidance.
- This document updates and supersedes the COVID-19 vaccine bulletin (Week 20), dated April 23, 2021 and earlier bulletins.

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Updates & Reminders

• REMINDER: All COVID-19 vaccine providers shall continue to prioritize Marylanders who are 65 and older.

• Vaccine Updates:

- Following federal guidance, Maryland has resumed allocating Johnson & Johnson vaccines. Please see this document's appendices for more details on allocation numbers for all vaccines.
- J&J providers are reminded to follow the guidance outlined in Section 3 below.
- Local Health Departments: Please see the four-week projection of vaccine allocation to all local health departments (Appendix 1, attached).

• Provider Updates:

• As of Monday, April 12, Maryland moved into Phase 3 making all Marylanders 16 and older eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine from any vaccine provider.

Note: Only Pfizer has been issued Emergency Use Authorization for use in individuals 16 and 17 years of age. Per federal guidance, all vaccine providers are directed to disclose the vaccine type they are administering to individuals at the time of scheduling their appointments.

1. Vaccine Eligibility

• All Marylanders 16 and older are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. All COVID-19 vaccine providers shall continue to prioritize Marylanders who are 65 and older.

Note: Please see Appendix 5 for the full list of Maryland's Vaccine Eligibility Phases.

2. Residency and Priority Group Eligibility Determinations

- All COVID-19 vaccine providers shall take reasonable steps to determine if an individual qualifies under the eligible priority groups. A COVID-19 vaccine provider may require additional documentation or employee identification and may require that organizations submit institutional plans with identified individuals. Any requirements must be applied consistently to all individuals with an appointment.
- A COVID-19 vaccine provider may not refuse an individual a vaccine based on their citizenship or immigration status.
- We prefer that Marylanders are prioritized for getting a vaccine allocated to us by the federal government; however, Maryland will not turn away a person from out of state who needs a vaccine.
- Individuals should be vaccinated according to the joint District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia statement (see below).

The District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia are committed to vaccinating eligible residents and out-of-state workers as equitably and efficiently as possible, based on limited vaccine supply from the federal government.

Individuals who are currently eligible for vaccination based on their occupations should first check with their employers to see if vaccination arrangements have already been made. If not, they should contact the local health department in the localities *where they work*. These individuals are at high risk of exposure to COVID-19 based on where they work.

Individuals who are currently eligible for vaccination because they are age 65 or older, or because they have high-risk medical conditions identified by the CDC, should contact the local health department in the localities *where they live*. These individuals are at high risk of serious illness if they contract COVID-19.

There are simply not enough doses available yet for everyone who is eligible to receive them. That means it may be weeks or longer before vaccination appointments become available for those who are eligible and have registered. Anyone who receives a first dose of vaccine will receive the second dose three or four weeks later as appropriate.

• Non-discrimination: The Maryland Department of Health complies with applicable Federal and State civil rights laws and prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion or creed, sex, age, ancestry or national origin, marital status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation and gender identity, genetic information, socioeconomic status, and/or any other protected status. The Maryland Department of Health prohibits the exclusion and favorable/unfavorable treatment of any individual in the aforementioned protected categories based on an individual's medical knowledge of and/or experience with a vaccine's efficacy, longevity, reduced side effects, or any other characteristic associated with the performance of an administered COVID-19 vaccination. An individual's protected status shall have no bearing on the type of vaccine an individual receives.

3. Vaccine Operations

• All COVID-19 Vaccine Providers shall: Register in ImmuNet to potentially be allocated a vaccine at:

https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/IMMUN/Pages/quick_ref_guides.aspx

NOTE: Registration does not guarantee the immediate allocation of the vaccine. Allocation is dependent on vaccine supply.

- All COVID-19 vaccine providers shall submit allocation requests to MDH by 2:00 p.m. every Tuesday at mdh.covidvax@maryland.gov. Requests from providers who have not administered at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all of their total dose allocation received to date will not be prioritized in the subsequent week's allocation. Because vaccine doses are still severely limited, MDH cannot guarantee that requests will be granted under any circumstances.
- **Pfizer 6th Dose:** Per updated <u>federal guidance</u>, all vials of Pfizer contain 6 vaccine doses. Providers that are unable to get a sixth dose from each vial will need to report the sixth dose as wastage using the process outlined in Section 4, Wastage. Additional Pfizer details can be found here:

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/index.html

• Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine:

- i. All vaccine providers who receive J&J vaccine **shall**:
 - 1. Comply with the FDA emergency use authorization conditions and recommendations;

- 2. Develop internal use and administration guidelines for offering the J&J vaccine in conjunction with any other allocated vaccine as clinically appropriate and based on the availability of vaccine.
- ii. All hospital providers who receive J&J vaccine **shall**, subject to the availability of vaccine supply:
 - 1. Offer the J&J vaccine to any eligible inpatients being discharged from a hospital admission to a nursing home, assisted living program, or other post-acute care facility (such as a rehabilitation center).
 - 2. Offer the J&J vaccine to eligible inpatient rehabilitation patients who have longer lengths of stay, but not 3-4 weeks needed for the Pfizer/Moderna second dose to be given before discharge.
- iii. Further clinical guidance can be found here:

 https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-dise
 ase-2019-covid-19/janssen-covid-19-vaccine
- iv. J&J orders will arrive in the State no earlier than Wednesday.

4. CovidVax.Maryland.gov

- "All providers who administer vaccines to the general public shall submit their vaccination site details (vaccine appointment registration webpage and a phone number that directs callers to staff accepting appointment registrations) to john.watson@maryland.gov."
- All registered COVID-19 vaccine providers in ImmuNet that are offering vaccination clinics will be listed on this page.

5. Second Doses

- As vaccine first doses are administered, providers should be able to estimate the number of patients that will require a second dose each week.
- Patients requiring second doses should be prioritized. Providers should manage appointments for second doses based on weekly estimates.
- To the extent possible, a provider shall schedule an individual's second dose at the time of the first dose at the appropriate time interval from the 1st dose. An individual does not need to create a new appointment on their own for the 2nd dose. This dose should be at the same location with the same provider. For more information, please see the CDC second dose information.

- On a weekly basis, providers should review missed appointments or other reasons for scheduled second doses not being used. Further CDC guidance can be found here.
 - Second doses should not be held or saved for patients who have not returned after 42 days following their first dose; providers may use only those second doses as first doses.
 - **REMINDER:** A COVID-19 vaccine provider may not use a second dose allocation as first doses for any other reason than outlined in the CDC guidance. They will not be provided with additional doses to cover any 2nd doses used as 1st doses.
- In limited circumstances, an individual will need to schedule a second dose with their local health department under the following circumstances:
 - If the individual has been released from incarceration after getting their first dose;
 - o If the individual with a proof of vaccination card has gotten their first dose in another state and has subsequently moved to Maryland; and
 - o If the individual has been discharged from a state-operated psychiatric facility.
 - The local health department shall honor these requests for second doses, to the extent permitted by their second dose supply.
 - A state-operated psychiatric facility that admits an individual who has received a
 first dose shall, to the extent permitted by their second dose supply, provide the
 second vaccine dose.
 - If the individual has gotten their first dose in the community and has been arrested, the local detention facility should make arrangements with their local health department to provide the second dose, to the extent permitted by the local health department's second dose supply.
- Second-dose orders will be placed on Sundays. Pfizer doses are projected to arrive the
 following Wednesday. Moderna doses are projected to arrive the following Tuesday. We
 will perform weekly supply chain tracking and delivery activities with providers to
 ensure orders are communicated and received appropriately.
- As part of our quality assurance effort, we are working to transition Pfizer to a two-week second dose order cycle to better ensure providers have the second doses they need with as much time as possible to align with the ideal 21-day vaccine delivery window. Moderna will stay at a three-week second dose order cycle, which aligns with the ideal 28-day vaccine delivery window.

6. Wastage/At-risk Vaccines

- MDH may reduce the COVID-19 vaccine allocation to any provider or facility that
 commits or allows wastage of COVID-19 vaccines. For further guidance, please refer
 to the current <u>Vaccination Matters Order</u> and/or <u>Provider Guidance for Avoiding</u>
 <u>Waste of COVID-19 Vaccine Doses</u> documents (subject to update).
- Providers should report all COVID-19 vaccine wastage and vaccine storage unit temperature excursions to: https://www.marylandvfc.org/covid-19-vaccine-excursion-expiration-reporting-form/.

NOTE: For providers that have received Pfizer: If a provider is unable to access a sixth dose, the sixth dose must be reported as wastage as "other".

Please review the guidelines before disposing of any COVID-19 vaccine doses.

7. Transfer of Doses from the Original Provider

- A provider who has been allocated doses from Maryland may transfer doses to another vaccine provider. The receiving vaccine provider must have completed the CDC provider agreement and the CDC redistribution agreement.
- Providers must keep records of what doses have been transferred and must complete a transfer request here at:
 https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/52e75f3d4514499cb0fd7110bd4000a7
 - The form will ask to/from, date, type (1st or 2nd) and amount.
- If a provider transfers doses, the original provider must ensure the reporting of the doses administered by the receiving provider in ImmuNet.
- MDH will give the exact same 2nd dose amount to the original provider, and they must ensure that the doses are administered to the same people and that those doses are reported.

8. Additional Local Health Department Guidance

- Each local health department shall develop and enforce a plan for minimizing wastage of at-risk vaccines for all providers and facilities located in their jurisdiction, consistent with the guidance in Section 6 above (an "anti-wastage plan") and the <u>Vaccination Matters</u> Order.
- MDH asks that each local health department vaccinate:
 - At least one independent living facility/community a week, in partnership with its local area agency on aging until all identified facilities have completed clinics; and

- At least one congregate living facility for people with disabilities (IDD or BH) or a DDA funded provider which serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) a week until all identified facilities have completed clinics.
- We ask that local health departments partner with the Maryland Departments of Aging and Disabilities in order to coordinate the distribution of vaccines.

Further information will be provided as it becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact Andy Owen, MDH Public Information Officer, at andv.owen@maryland.gov.

Appendix 1 - Local Health Department Projected Allocations for Week 21 (5/3/2021), Week 22 (5/10/2021), Week 23 (5/17/2021), and Week 24 (5/24/2021). Note: All doses are a combination of Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J. Changes from last week in **bold**.

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS	WEEK 21	WEEK 22	WEEK 23	WEEK 24
Allegany County Health Department	700	700	700	700
Anne Arundel County Health Department	5,240	5,240	5,240	5,240
Baltimore City Health Department	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Baltimore County Health Department	7,020	7,020	7,020	7,020
Calvert County Health Department	800	800	800	800
Caroline County Health Department	300	300	300	300
Carroll County Health Department	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Cecil County Health Department	900	900	900	900
Charles County Health Department	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Dorchester County Health Department	200	200	200	200
Frederick County Health Department	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
Garrett County Health Department	200	200	200	200
Harford County Health Department	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300
Howard County Health Department	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Kent County Health Department	300	300	300	300
Montgomery County Health Department	9,590	9,590	9,590	9,590
Prince George's County Health Department	8,190	8,190	8,190	8,190
Queen Anne's County Health Department	500	500	500	500
Somerset County Health Department	0	0	0	0
St. Mary's County Health Department	1,670	1,670	1,670	1,670
Talbot County Health Department	300	300	300	300
Washington County Health Department	500	500	500	500
Wicomico County Health Department	500	500	500	500
Worcester County Health Department	400	400	400	400

Appendix 2 - Ordered Doses for Week 21 (5/3/2021)

HOSPITALS	Pfizer	Moderna	J&J	NOTES
Johns Hopkins Hospital System (Main, Bayview, Suburban, Howard, Kennedy Krieger)	1,170		400	
MedStar Health (Franklin Square, Union Memorial, Good Samaritan, Harbor, Montgomery, So. Maryland, St. Mary's)	1,170		1,500	Includes 200 doses for homebound populations
Lifebridge Health System (Sinai, Northwest, Carroll, Grace)	1,170	500	400	Includes 500 doses for Bikur Chilom in coordination with the Vaccine Equity Taskforce
UMMC Hub (UMMC, Midtown, Rehab/Ortho)	1,170		300	
UM-BWMC Hub (BWMC, Easton, Dorchester, Chestertown)	1,170		400	
UM St. Joseph Hub (SJMC, Harford Memorial, Upper Chesapeake)	1,170		300	
UM Capital Region Hub (Prince George's, Laurel, Bowie, Charles)	4,680	200	2,200	Includes 200 doses for Casa Hyattsville in coordination with the Vaccine Equity Taskforce
Anne Arundel Medical Center		100	100	
Ascension St. Agnes		200		Includes 200 doses in coordination with the Vaccine Equity Taskforce
Meritus Medical Center			100	
Frederick Health		100		
Holy Cross Health (Holy Cross Silver Spring, Holy Cross Germantown)		800	200	Includes 500 doses for

			equity/senior housing projects
Sheppard Pratt Health System	 	100	
Doctors Community Hospital	 1,600	100	Includes 1600 doses for community projects in coordination with the Vaccine Equity Taskforce
Atlantic General Hospital	 100	200	
CalvertHealth Medical Center	 100		
ChristianaCare, Cecil County	 100	200	
TidalHealth Peninsula Regional	 100	100	
Greater Baltimore Medical Center	 100	100	
Mercy Medical Center	 100	100	
UPMC Western Maryland	 100		

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS	WEEK 21 Pfizer	WEEK 21 Moderna	WEEK 21 J&J	NOTES
Allegany County Health Department		500	200	Per LHD request
Anne Arundel County Health Department	2,340	2,900		
Baltimore City Health Department		2,000		Per LHD request
Baltimore County Health Department	7,020			
Calvert County Health Department		800	-	
Caroline County Health Department		300		
Carroll County Health Department		1,500		
Cecil County Health Department		900		
Charles County Health Department		1,500		
Dorchester County Health Department		200		Per LHD request
Frederick County Health Department		2,400		
Garrett County Health Department			200	Per LHD request
Harford County Health Department		2,300		

Howard County Health Department		3,000		
Kent County Health Department		300		
Montgomery County Health Department	8,190	1,400		
Prince George's County Health Department	8,190			
Queen Anne's County Health Department		500		
Somerset County Health Department			-	Per LHD request
St. Mary's County Health Department	1,170	500		
Talbot County Health Department		300		
Washington County Health Department		500		
Wicomico County Health Department		500		Per LHD request
Worcester County Health Department		400		

PHARMACY CHAINS	WEEK 21	NOTES
Giant Food/Martins (25 stores)	8,700	100 doses/store (other half used for targeted clinics to vaccinate vulnerable populations)

Note: All doses for Pharmacy Chains are Moderna.

Appendix 3 - Second Doses for Week 21 (5/3/2021)

HOSPITALS	Pfizer	Moderna
Johns Hopkins Hospital System (Main, Bayview, Suburban, Howard, Kennedy Krieger)	1,170	400*
MedStar Health (Franklin Square, Union Memorial, Good Samaritan, Harbor, Montgomery, So. Maryland, St. Mary's)	1,170	
Lifebridge Health System (Sinai, Northwest, Carroll, Grace)	1,170	1,000*
UMMC Hub (UMMC, Midtown, Rehab/Ortho)	1,170	
UM-BWMC Hub (BWMC, Easton, Dorchester, Chestertown)	1,170	
UM-St. Joseph Hub (SJMC, Harford Memorial, Upper Chesapeake)	1,170	
UM Capital Region Hub (Prince George's, Laurel,	1,170	200*

Bowie, Charles)		
Anne Arundel Medical Center		100
Meritus Medical Center		100
Frederick Health		100
Holy Cross Health (Holy Cross Silver Spring, Holy Cross Germantown)		300*
Doctors Community Hospital		100
Atlantic General Hospital		100
CalvertHealth Medical Center		100
ChristianaCare, Cecil County	1,170	
TidalHealth Peninsula Regional		100
Greater Baltimore Medical Center		100
Mercy Medical Center		100

^{*}These doses will be used in conjunction with the Vaccine Equity Task Force

Continued: Appendix 3 - Second Doses for Week 21 (5/3/2021)

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS	Pfizer	Moderna
Allegany County Health Department		500
Anne Arundel County Health Department		3,800
Baltimore City Health Department	1,170	3,400
Baltimore County Health Department	5,850	
Calvert County Health Department		600
Caroline County Health Department		300
Carroll County Health Department		1,100
Cecil County Health Department		700
Charles County Health Department		1,100
Dorchester County Health Department		300
Frederick County Health Department		1,700

Garrett County Health Department		300
Harford County Health Department		1,700
Howard County Health Department		2,200
Kent County Health Department		300
Montgomery County Health Department	7,020	
Prince George's County Health Department	5,850	
Queen Anne's County Health Department		300
Somerset County Health Department		200
St. Mary's County Health Department	1,170	500
Talbot County Health Department		300
Washington County Health Department		400
Wicomico County Health Department		700
Worcester County Health Department		300

Note: FQHCs will have the appropriate second doses ordered to correspond to their first dose orders.

Appendix 4: Priority Group Eligibility

A. Phase 1A (December 14, 2020):

• All licensed, registered, and certified healthcare providers; nursing home residents and staff; law enforcement, firefighters, EMS, and other first responders; correctional healthcare staff and officers; and front line judiciary staff.

B. Phase 1B (January 18, 2021):

- All Marylanders age 75 and over
- All Marylanders of any age in assisted living, independent living, behavioral health and developmentally disabled group homes, and other congregate facilities through Part B of the Federal Long-Term Care Pharmacy Partnership Program.
- All individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities can begin receiving vaccines as part of Phase 1B. Those who reside in congregate-living facilities will be prioritized. Direct support professionals will be able to receive vaccines in Phase 1C.
- **Education:** (K-12 teachers and support staff, childcare providers, higher education institutions)

- Educational facilities include: licensed childcare facilities; K-12: both public school systems and nonpublic schools; and higher educational institutions.
- Teachers, school staff, and child care workers are defined as those who work in pre-primary, primary, and secondary schools, as well as Head Start and Early Head Start programs (including teachers, staff, and bus drivers) and those who work as or for licensed child care providers, including center-based and family care providers. For more information, please see the HHS March 2, 2021 Directive.
- Nonpublic schools may <u>not</u> be excluded from any COVID-19 vaccine provider who is administering COVID-19 vaccine to educators. Any COVID-19 vaccine provider who refuses to vaccinate nonpublic school staff while administering vaccines to public school system employees will have future vaccine allocations reduced or reallocated.
- Each educational facility shall:
 - Identify a clinical provider (e.g., hospitals, FQHCs, others) that is registered with ImmuNet for COVID-19 vaccine administration. If no provider is identified, then the local health department will be the default vaccinator of that facility through one of their general population clinics and the local health department's vaccine allocation.
 - We encourage each educational facility and their clinical provider to coordinate with each local health department on their vaccine administration plan for vaccine allocations.
 - An educational facility's clinical provider may submit a vaccine allocation request to the state and identify the number of staff that needs to be vaccinated.
 - **Note**: Due to the limited supply of vaccine, Maryland does not anticipate significantly fulfilling any specific educational vaccine requests until a majority of Marylanders over age 65 are vaccinated.
- **Note:** Higher Education Institutional front-line workers with potential contact with students living in residence halls (congregate living), facilities maintenance, dining hall, and campus police are included in 1C.
- Each educational facility shall prioritize its faculty, staff, and students by the following:

- (A) Faculty or staff that provide essential in-person learning (i.e. instruction that cannot be delivered remotely);
- (B) Individuals with essential functions related to facility/campus operations;
- (C) Individuals that require residential or on-campus housing;
- (D) or that meet an existing priority group in Phase 1A or 1B currently.

• Continuity of Government:

- Local elected officials should be prioritized as extra doses become available by the relevant local health departments.
- All federal law enforcement agencies should coordinate with the Maryland State Police on their needs.
- All federal non-law enforcement agencies should consider implementing their continuity of operations plans (COOP) and request the relevant doses from FEMA.
- All local government (at the county and municipal levels) agencies shall coordinate with their local health department on vaccination priorities. As extra doses become available, local health departments should vaccinate those agencies with a focus on the continuity of government operations.
- All other state agencies should follow the January 25, 2021 DBM guidance.
- Each local health department should work with the administrative judges (district and circuit) in their jurisdiction to prioritize and vaccinate judicial personnel that are non-frontline using their jurisdiction's allocated doses.

C. Phase 1C (January 25, 2021)

- All Marylanders over 65.
- All other public safety (not in Phase 1A)
- All other healthcare (not in Phase 1A), including, but not limited to, Lab Services,
 Public Health, Vaccine Manufacturing, other healthcare professions
- Food and Agriculture Production
- Critical Manufacturing

- U.S. Postal Service
- Public Mass Transit
- Grocery Stores
- Veterinarians and Support Staff
- Clergy and other essential support for houses of worship
- Certain immunocompromised individuals who are currently receiving hospital-based treatment, including in hospital outpatient centers AND diagnosed with at least one of the following conditions:
 - o Cancer patients who are currently in active treatment
 - End stage renal disease patients requiring hemodialysis
 - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
 - Solid organ transplant recipients
 - Sickle cell disease patients
 - Diabetic patients (Type 1 and Type 2)
- Hospital-based health care providers should work with the clinics within their hospital that manage the care of these patients to vaccinate these individuals.
- Maryland will make its best efforts to ensure that every hospital will receive at least 100 doses for these immunocompromised individuals.
- Note: for more information on the groups defined in Phase 1C above, please see the <u>U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Critical Infrastructure Workers' Advisory</u> Memorandum (December 16, 2020).

D. Phase 2A (Tuesday, March 23, 2021)

All Marylanders 60 and older.

E. Phase 2B (Tuesday, March 30, 2021)

- All Marylanders 16 and older with medical conditions that are at an increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness.
- Note: A list of qualifying medical conditions as defined by the CDC can be found here. Individuals may want to consult with their doctors to determine their individual risk.

All Marylanders 16 and older with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security
Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits, Maryland
Medicaid Employed Individuals with Disabilities (EID) individuals, Maryland
Medicaid Rare and Expensive Case Management (REM) recipients; Marylanders
receiving Temporary Disability Assistance Program (TDAP) benefits, or
Marylanders receiving long term services and supports through the state's Medicaid
waiver and state plan services.

F. Phase 2C (Monday, April 12, 2021)

- All Marylanders 55 and older
- All essential workers in critical industries, including
 - Construction workers,
 - o Food services,
 - o Utilities,
 - o Transportation,
 - o Financial services, and
 - o Information Technology.
- Note: for more information on the groups defined in Phase 2C above, please see the <u>U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Critical Infrastructure Workers' Advisory</u> <u>Memorandum (December 16, 2020)</u>

G. Phase 3 (Monday, April 12, 2021)

• All Marylanders 16 and older.