

NEWS

For Immediate Release

January 26, 2021

Those qualified to receive COVID-19 vaccine in Group 1 and Subgroup 2.1 encouraged to seek vaccine as soon as possible; avoid double booking

Central District Health to offer COVID-19 vaccine information session this Wednesday

Central District Health (CDH) is strongly encouraging anyone among Group 1 and Subgroup 2.1 of [Idaho's Vaccine Prioritization Plan](#) eligible and interested in receiving a COVID-19 vaccine to seek an appointment as soon as they can. Currently, under the state's vaccine prioritization plan, healthcare, school and childcare workers are eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine. A more detailed list of Group 1 and Subgroup 2.1 is available at <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Prioritization-Groups-1-and-2-FINAL.pdf>

CDH has worked with employers among Group 1 and Subgroup 2.1 to connect those eligible to enrolled vaccine providers that are currently receiving weekly vaccine shipments. However, if you are among these groups and have not been connected to vaccine, you are encouraged to seek an appointment through an enrolled vaccine provider or call CDH's Call Center to be connected to one. A list of enrolled providers is available [HERE](#). CDH's Call Center operates Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm and Saturdays from 8:30 am to 12:30, and can be reached at 208-321-2222.

"Those who qualify today will continue to be eligible, but the reality is that vaccine appointments are in many cases already quite limited because of limited vaccine supply. As we move to the next Subgroup of adults 65 years and older very soon, we are looking at a large and motivated portion of our population. Demand will substantially increase amidst what looks to be a continued limited supply, so now is the time to get your vaccine scheduled if you are among Group 1 or Subgroup 2.1," said Russ Duke, District Director for CDH.

Booking multiple appointments puts doses at risk

People should keep in mind that even if they are eligible, appointment availability will not be immediate. "Those who make an appointment with one provider really need to honor that appointment and not make appointments elsewhere," said Duke. Providers offer COVID-19 vaccine appointments based on available vaccine doses, and no-show appointments very easily stand to waste a dose of vaccine. "If you

don't show up for an appointment, you are potentially putting that dose, and someone who should have gotten it, at risk," added Duke. Enrolled providers must ensure they are adhering to the state protocols for vaccine eligibility, and in many cases, proof of employment is required at the time of vaccine.

Vaccine supply to CDH's four-county jurisdiction continues to be very limited. This week, dose allotments were nearly 1,000 fewer than the previous week.

Preparing for the 65+ Population

The state's next Subgroup to open includes adults 65 years of age and older. Under this group, an anticipated 250,000 Idahoans will be eligible for vaccine sometime in early February and may require a tiered approach to serve. State public health will announce its plan to vaccinate this group before February 1.

COVID-19 Vaccine Learning Session: Wednesday, Jan. 27 from 4-5 pm

Join CDH medical team members for an overview of the COVID-19 vaccine and hear them answer questions from the public. This session will be streamed live and will be recorded and posted to CDH's YouTube page for later viewing. Please submit questions in advance at the link below. CDH's team will work to answer as many questions as possible.

- *Submit your COVID-19 vaccine question here:* <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/vaccine-qa>
- *Watch live on Wed., Jan 27 from 4-5 pm at:*
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4LJ1BM5Jv3zczecnykXarw>

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For more information about COVID-19, visit
<https://www.cdh.idaho.gov/covid>
or call the CDH Call Center at 208-321-2222, Monday through Friday
between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm; Saturdays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
(Note: The call center may be closed or operate with modified hours on holidays.)

Media Contacts:

Christine Myron, 208-871-1712 | cmyron@cdh.idaho.gov
Alina Gilmore, 208-830-2540 | agilmore@cdh.idaho.gov