**PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK**

- **New groups eligible for vaccination** – As vaccine supply continues to increase in Ohio, Governor Mike DeWine announced Tuesday, March 16, expanded eligibility for Ohioans.
  - **Phase 2C, effective March 19**, extends age-based vaccine eligibility to age 40 and older. This opens vaccination to approximately 818,000 additional Ohioans.
  - **Phase 1E, effective March 11**, includes 766,000 Ohioans not eligible under Ohio’s age-based approach to vaccine eligibility with the following underlying medical conditions.
    - Cancer.
    - Chronic kidney disease (CKD).
    - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
    - Heart disease.
    - Obesity.
  - **Phase 2D, effective March 29**, extends vaccine eligibility to Ohioans ages 16 and older.
    - With parental or legal guardian consent, individuals ages 16 and 17 will be eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine, which is the only COVID-19 vaccine currently authorized for use with people under age 18.
  - **Target population/occupation (TP/O) forms** have been updated to reflect the additional eligible populations. Click here to access the checklist and the codes.

- **Vaccine Management Solution scheduling** - The Vaccine Management Solution (VMS) scheduling website launched to the public March 8. Beginning the week of March 22, providers are required to either complete vaccinations using this system or an electronic health record (EHR) that interfaces with the system in a manner that allows direct booking from VMS. This will streamline the experience, reduce data lags, and provide real-time information on vaccination progress at the state and county level.
  - To receive an account activation link, providers receiving allocations must first log in to their OHID account to complete the Vaccine Provider Locations form. Step-by-step instructions for adding or updating information are available on the ODH website on the VMS training page.
  - Vaccine providers who are receiving allocations and have completed the form but have not received an invitation to join VMS are asked to call the ODH Provider Call Center at 1-844-90DHVAX (1-844-963-4829) or email COVIDVACCINE@odh.ohio.gov.
  - VMS training resources are available on the COVID-19 Vaccine Providers page.
  - VMS 411 sessions take place every Wednesday and Friday, from 3-4 p.m.
    - Join by phone: 872-215-2965
    - Phone conference ID: 739 278 746#
    - One-click dial by phone: +1 872-215-2965, 739278746#

- **Mass vaccination sites** - The mass vaccination site at Cleveland State University’s Wolstein Center is now open. The site will incrementally increase the number of vaccines administered to be able to offer 6,000 doses per day, 7 days per week. The Wolstein Center location was recommended by Ohio and selected by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) based on its proximity to a large number of people at increased risk, and medically underserved populations. To ensure equitable access to the vaccine for underserved and socially vulnerable populations, more than 300 local community groups are partnering with the state to help schedule appointments for those who face vaccination barriers.
  - **Columbus and Cincinnati** pop-up clinics will be held March 18-21 and April 8-11 at St. John Arena at Ohio State University and March 18-20 and April 8-10 at the Cintas Center at Xavier University.
  - Mobile clinics will distribute vaccine in four regions: northwest/west-central Ohio, southeast Ohio, north-central Ohio, and east-central Ohio.
  - Mass vaccination clinics will operate in Akron, Chillicothe, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton, Lima, Marietta, Maumee, Wilmington, Youngstown, and Zanesville.

**RESOURCES**

**HOW TO ENROLL**
- Vaccine Provider Enrollment Information

**PROVIDER RESOURCES**
- Vaccine Provider Resources Page
- Phase 1C guidance
- Phase 1D guidance
- Phase 1E guidance
- Phase 2A guidance
- Phase 2B guidance
- Phase 2C guidance
- Phase 2D guidance

**RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC**
- [coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine)
- Vaccine eligibility by category
- Priority Populations Distribution Fact Sheet
- Myths vs. Facts
- COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ
- Safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines
- Trust the facts graphics
- Understanding how the different vaccines work
- Preparing for your COVID-19 vaccination
- Acceptable forms of ID
- Communications Resources Hub
TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual’s personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials. These talking points are designed to help you communicate the most current information.

- All available COVID-19 vaccines have been proven safe and effective at preventing serious illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19. Getting vaccinated with the first vaccine available to you can help protect you.
- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses are available in limited supply for specific critical populations. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated. Some vaccines, including the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, require two doses taken a few weeks apart. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine, however, is a single-dose vaccine, meaning you only need one shot.
- Side effects are mild, and are normal signs that your body is building protection. Similar to side effects from other vaccines, like a flu shot, they should go away in a few days. Some people have reported experiencing soreness or redness at the site of the injection, body aches, headaches, or fever, lasting for a day or two. Severe reactions, or anaphylaxes, are rare. If you have allergies — especially severe ones that include allergies to other vaccines or ingredients in the vaccines — discuss the COVID-19 vaccine with your doctor, who can assess your risk and provide more information about if and how you can get vaccinated safely. Ohio, CDC and FDA are monitoring the distribution and any negative reactions to the vaccine.
- Vaccines are available at locations across the state, including hospitals, local health departments, federally qualified health centers, and pharmacies. Find out if you are currently eligible, locate a provider, and book an appointment near you at gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov. In addition, a list of providers statewide is available online at vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or chickenpox vaccine. The FDA and independent medical experts have ensured that every detail of these vaccines is thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures — like wearing a mask, washing your hands, and practicing social distancing — coupled with the vaccine, will provide the best protection from COVID-19.

SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- Until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated, proper prevention, like wearing masks & social distancing, will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus during the pandemic. [https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine)
- What is the difference between the available COVID-19 vaccines, and how do they work? Learn more about the different vaccines and how they work [http://bit.ly/AboutVaccinesOhio](http://bit.ly/AboutVaccinesOhio)
- All the available #COVID19 vaccines have been proven safe and effective at preventing serious illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19. Getting vaccinated with the first vaccine available to you can help protect you from COVID-19. Learn more [https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine)
- When you get a COVID-19 vaccine, you can expect pain and soreness in the arm where you got the shot. Other common side effects are fever, chills, headache, and tiredness. These side effects are normal as your body creates an immune response to protect you from COVID-19, and may increase with the second dose. Learn more about what to expect in this video from the @CDC [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EILCpte7GSw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EILCpte7GSw)

COVID-19 VACCINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

This toolkit offers talking points, language tips, social media language and trusted resources to help you better communicate about the safe, effective COVID-19 vaccines.

PFIZER RESOURCES

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Providers
Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Patients

MODERNA RESOURCES

EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccination Providers
EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers

JOHNSON & JOHNSON RESOURCES

EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers

CDC RESOURCES

Vaccinate with Confidence
About V-Safe after vaccination health checker
Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine
Vaccine safety
Free printable resources
COVID-19 Toolkits
How to protect yourselves, others after you’ve been fully vaccinated
COVID-19 Vaccine Training Modules