



# Supervisor **Sylvia R. Glass**

## Broad Run Bulletin



COVID-19 Vaccine Update | Monday, January 11, 2021

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## Loudoun Enters Phase 1b of Vaccine Distribution Effective Today

### Are You in Phase 1b? Here's What You Need to Know

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) [announced](#) that Loudoun County will enter Phase 1b of the COVID-19 vaccination efforts, effective today, Monday, January 11, 2021. Loudoun County is working with its community partners—which include pharmacies, health care systems, schools and employers—to help people in Phase 1b know from whom they will receive vaccine, how to make an appointment to receive a vaccine, and where to go to get vaccinated. The community is working together to begin vaccinating people eligible in Phase 1b of the commonwealth's phased vaccination plan as soon as possible, and continues to enroll and

vaccinate people in Phase 1a (health care workers and residents of long-term care facilities).

- [View details about Phase 1b from the Virginia Department of Health.](#)

“We know that our essential workers and older adults are eager to get vaccinated, and we are eager to facilitate vaccination for as many people as possible in the weeks ahead,” said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend. “Right now, we are asking those who are next in line to get vaccinated—those in Phase 1b—to contact their employer or the Health Department for information about how to receive vaccine.”

# COVID-19 Vaccination Phase 1b



- People age 75+

- Front-line essential workers in priority order:

1. Police, fire and hazmat workers
2. Corrections and homeless shelter workers
3. Child care/K-12 teachers/staff
4. Food and agriculture workers
5. Manufacturing workers
6. Grocery store workers
7. Public transit workers
8. Mail carriers (USPS and private)
9. Officials needed to maintain continuity of government

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## Who is Eligible in Phase 1b?

Phase 1b includes essential front-line workers who are defined as essential to the functioning of society and are at higher risk of exposure to the virus. In addition, because there currently is not a sufficient supply of COVID-19 vaccine to vaccinate everyone in Phase 1b at the same time, the Health Department will reach out to members of the 1b group in the following order, which is required by VDH:

1. Police, fire and hazmat workers
2. Corrections and homeless shelter workers

3. Child care/K-12 teachers/staff
4. Food and agriculture workers
5. Manufacturing workers
6. Grocery store workers
7. Public transit workers
8. Mail carriers (USPS and private)
9. Officials needed to maintain continuity of government

**People aged 75 and over are also included in Phase 1b** because they are at higher risk of serious illness should they contract COVID-19. This older adult population is prioritized to receive vaccine at the same time as the front-line workers listed above. As supplies of vaccine increase, an overlap of vaccination of people in the 1b group will occur to ensure the group is vaccinated as quickly and as efficiently as possible.

The Health Department is coordinating special vaccination events for law enforcement, fire and hazmat, corrections and homeless shelter workers, and public schools employees. There will be no need for individuals working in these sectors to contact the Health Department to schedule appointments.

- [Learn more about the vaccine priority groups on the VDH website.](#)

**How to Sign Up for a COVID-19 Vaccine**

Many members of the Phase 1a and 1b priority group may be enrolled for vaccination by their employers; this is the most efficient way of getting signed up for vaccinations. Employers, members of the 1a and 1b groups who have not been contacted by their employers, and **residents over the age of 75, may receive guidance about the vaccination process by contacting the Loudoun County Health Department in one of two ways:**

1. Send an email that includes your name, organization and basis for inclusion in Phase 1a or 1b to [health@loudoun.gov](mailto:health@loudoun.gov), which is the most efficient way to contact the Health Department;

Or

2. If you do not have access to email, you may call Loudoun County's COVID-19 information line at 703-737-8300 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

### **Where Will I Get the Vaccine?**

Right now, because supply of COVID-19 vaccine is limited, the Health Department will be coordinating vaccination opportunities during the initial expansion into Phase 1b. Initially, the Loudoun County Health Department will be coordinating or providing these vaccinations. As we move forward, vaccine will become increasingly available through people's health care providers and local pharmacies and as a result, Loudoun County ultimately will not be the primary provider of COVID-19 vaccine.

VDH has indicated that as of January 6, 2021, more than 2,000 providers in Virginia have already signed up to distribute COVID-19 vaccine. In addition, Loudoun County will host vaccination events as needed. Loudoun County will announce when each phase of the vaccination process will begin, as well as provide information about vaccination opportunities offered by the county.

### **Vaccine Supply**

The ability to schedule appointments will depend on the supply of vaccine available. Vaccine supply in the United States is still very limited. Currently the federal government is allocating about 110,000 doses of vaccine to Virginia a week and Loudoun County is receiving a portion of the available vaccine. The amount of vaccine available in the United States will depend on the capabilities of the manufacturers to produce the vaccine safely and is expected to increase later gradually over the next months. Following the vaccination of people in the priority Phases 1a, 1b and 1c, vaccination opportunities will be expanded to include everyone else in the general population.

- [View data about the number of vaccines administered in Loudoun County and around Virginia.](#)

### **Stay Vigilant in Slowing the Spread of COVID-19**

Before and after Loudoun residents receive a COVID-19 vaccine, everyone is encouraged to continue taking the steps that help prevent the spread of

the disease, including washing hands frequently, wearing face coverings, social distancing, avoiding large gatherings of people and staying home when sick. Learn more about [COVID-19 prevention and care](#) on the county's website.

### **Sign Up to Receive Alerts**

vaccination efforts will be published as it becomes available. To stay informed about when it is your turn to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, residents should sign up to receive text or email updates about COVID-19 from Loudoun County:

- Text LCCOVID19 to 888777 to receive text alerts in English.
- Para recibir alertas de texto en español, envíe LCCOVIDESP al 888777
- Sign up for email and text updates on COVID-19 in [Notify Me, Blogs category, "Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)."](#)
- Follow Loudoun County on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Visit the county's website, [loudoun.gov/coronavirus](https://loudoun.gov/coronavirus).

RECEIVE TEXT UPDATES ON  
CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19):

Text **LCCOVID19**  
to **888777**

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### Additional COVID-19 Resources and Updates

#### **How Will I Know When My Family or I Can Get a Vaccine?**

The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as large enough quantities are available. Vaccine for the general population will likely become available in the first half of 2021. Stay informed to learn when vaccine is available in our area and sign up for updates at [loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine](https://loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine).

### **COVID-19 Vaccine: 8 Things to Know Now in Loudoun County**

The creation and distribution of COVID-19 vaccine is one of the most critical steps toward protecting those at highest risk of the disease and eventually bringing an end to the pandemic. As vaccine first becomes available later this month to the priority groups, here are eight things all of us should know about preparations for vaccine distribution in Loudoun County over the coming months: [Continue Reading](#).

### **What You Should Do If You Test Positive for COVID-19**

If you test positive for COVID-19 or are diagnosed with COVID-19, you need to stay home, away from others, and monitor your health for 14 days. Contact your health care provider for guidance on caring for yourself. If you experience serious symptoms of COVID-19, such as trouble breathing, pain or pressure in the chest, and confusion, seek medical attention right away. [Continue Reading](#).

### **Loudoun Health Officials Encourage Self-Notification of Contacts following COVID-19 Diagnosis**

As the number of COVID-19 cases continues to rise in Loudoun County and across the country, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) have provided updated guidance to local health departments regarding COVID-19 case investigations and contact tracing prioritization strategies. [Continue Reading](#).

### **What You Need to Know about 'Close Contact' to COVID-19**

The term “close contact” has become a buzz word in daily life. What you may not know is that the term carries an important definition to public health officials. Understanding close contact in the context of COVID-19 is crucial to the ongoing assessment and management of this disease and ultimately helps orient our collective actions.

As the pandemic continues to evolve, scientists are learning more and more about the virus that causes COVID-19. As a result, the approach to slowing the spread of the disease and the strategies used to reduce the impact of the pandemic on the community may also evolve. Recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated the definition of what it means to have close contact with another person that has or may have COVID-19. [Continue Reading](#).

### **Virginia Launches COVID-19 Vaccine Data Dashboard**

the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) added COVID-19 vaccine data to the [COVID-19 Daily Dashboard](#) on two new tabs, Vaccine Summary and Vaccine Demographics. This new information will keep the public informed about the numbers of COVID-19 vaccines distributed and administered in Virginia. It will be updated daily. [Continue Reading](#).

### **Loudoun Health Department to Coordinate COVID-19 Vaccination for Health Care Workers Not Already Signed Up**

The Loudoun County Health Department is seeking to identify any health care offices or providers that are part of the Virginia Department of Health's (VDH) [Phase 1a](#) group for COVID-19 vaccination but are not already signed up to receive vaccine. [Continue Reading](#).

### Information and Referral

Loudoun County's Information and Referral Line specialists help individuals and families better understand the range of options to assist them in making informed decisions. Information and Referral specialists assess the situation and together with the caller, help to identify options to meet the primary service/resource needs. Contact Information and Referral Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 703-777-0420 or [online](#).

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