

The DPH Bulletin

From the Delaware Division of Public Health

January 2021

COVID-19 vaccinations continue; Delaware now in Phase 1B

As of January 28, 92,552 Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccine doses had been administered, according to the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), Division of Public Health (DPH).

Delaware opened Phase 1B of its COVID-19 vaccine allocation plan on January 25, making the following groups eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine:

- Individuals 65 years and older
- Essential frontline workers, including fire and police, teachers and education staff, child care providers, food processing workers, correctional officers; and postal service, public transit workers, and grocery workers.

Those who qualify as part of their job should look for communications from their employer. Persons 65 and older can get the vaccine from pharmacies, some primary care providers, or by requesting an appointment for a vaccination event through the state's recently launched registration system.

Information on locations can be found at the Where can I Get My Vaccine page of de.gov/covidvaccine. Those with no computer access should call the Vaccine Call Center a 1-833-643-1715 for operator assistance.

The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and the Moderna vaccine require two doses and cite effectiveness rates of at least 94 percent.

Both vaccines also have minor side effects such as arm muscle soreness and redness at the injection site, headaches, or body aches, fever or chills. Side effects may occur with any vaccine. Due to limited vaccine supply, the state is prioritizing first doses and as supply allows, second doses will go first to high-risk health care personnel in the Phase 1A category. You can view DPH's statement on second dose allocation at <https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/vaccine/where-can-i-get-my-vaccine/>.



By January 28, 92,552 doses of COVID-19 vaccine had been administered in Delaware. Mass vaccination events were held in Delaware City and Georgetown on the weekend of January 22, 23, and 24, 2021. On that weekend, the Division of Public Health administered a total of 11,154 doses of vaccine to Phase 1B seniors age 65 and older and Phase 1A health care personnel. Delaware City's three-day vaccination total was 6,214 and Georgetown's two-day vaccination total was 4,940. From left: Queenie Lewis and Betty Trammell received their first doses of COVID-19 vaccine at a Georgetown vaccination event. Glenn Marshall of Sussex County EMS prepares a dose.

Photos by Sharon Smith.

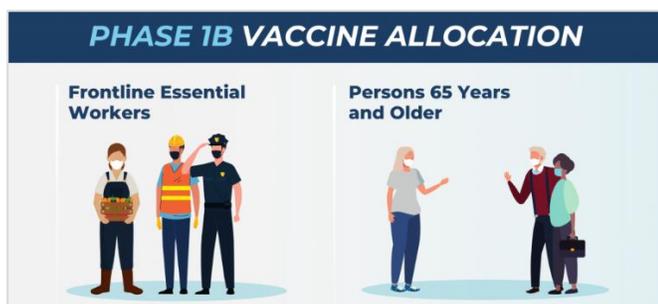
Nearly 77,000 COVID-19 positive cases and first pediatric death reported

Between March 11, 2020 and January 28, 2021, 76,935 positive cases of COVID-19 were reported to DPH. In the same period, 1,078 Delawareans died from complications due to COVID-19; 573 of those deaths were residents of long-term care facilities. On January 28, there were 320 current hospitalizations relating to COVID-19.

On January 8, DPH reported the state's first COVID-19 related death of a child. The child was younger than 5, from New Castle County, and had significant co-morbidities.

"We send our deepest condolences to this child's family and all of those who have lost a loved one during this pandemic," said DPH Director Dr. Karyl Rattay. "We are urging everyone in our state to come together, take this current winter surge seriously, remain vigilant about mitigation measures, and keep each other safe."

For COVID-19 data, visit MyHealthyCommunity at de.gov/healthycommunity. A new dashboard tracks in-person contagious COVID-19 cases among staff and students of district and charter schools. Visit myhealthycommunity.dhss.delaware.gov/locations/sta/in-person-contagious.



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health

Many COVID-19 testing sites available

Plenty of COVID-19 testing sites are available throughout the state including community testing sites hosted by New Castle County, permanent fixed testing sites at certain DPH clinics and DHSS State Service Centers, pharmacy sites, Curative sites, and free-standing “pop-up” sites operated by the health care systems and hospitals. View the full list of testing locations at de.gov/gettested.

Before heading to a testing site, check DHSS’ social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) for updates in case of inclement weather.

Stay safe, Delaware

DPH reminds Delawareans that if you believe you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, or have symptoms of illness, make sure to distance yourself from others, particularly vulnerable populations. Older adults and people of any age with serious underlying medical conditions – including serious heart conditions, chronic lung conditions, moderate to severe asthma, severe obesity, and those who are immunocompromised, such as cancer patients – may have a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.



If you are sick with any of the following symptoms, stay home: fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, chills, shaking with chills, loss of smell or taste, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, or headache or

congestion or runny nose without a known cause such as allergies. Other symptoms such as abdominal pain or lack of appetite have been identified as potential symptoms related to COVID-19 and may prompt further screening, action or investigation by a primary care provider. If you are sick and need essential supplies, ask someone else to go to the grocery store or the pharmacy to get what you need.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing should call 2-1-1 or text their ZIP code to 898-211.



How to report violations of public gathering restrictions and ask business reopening and unemployment questions

Complaints about individuals violating public gathering restrictions should contact state or local law enforcement. Concerns that a business may be violating operating restrictions should be directed to: HSPContact@delaware.gov.

Send questions related to business re-openings or operations to COVID19FAQ@delaware.gov. Questions regarding unemployment claims should be emailed to: UIClaims@delaware.gov.

Helpful Resources

Visit coronavirus.delaware.gov/vaccine for information about the vaccine timeline and other information.

[Click here](#) for COVID-19 vaccination fact sheets in Spanish, Haitian Creole, Simplified Chinese, and Arabic.

For up-to-date statistics, visit the Vaccine Tracker Dashboard at de.gov/healthycommunity. Questions can be directed to the Vaccine Call Center at 1-833-643-1715 or Vaccine@delaware.gov.