

# Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Massachusetts COVID-19 Vaccination  
Program (MCVP)  
Residential Congregate Care and Shelter  
Provider Call



**JANUARY 7, 2021**

# Agenda

	Welcome
	Phase 1 Residential Congregate Care and Shelter Settings
	About the Vaccine
	Overview of the Vaccine Administration Process
	Vaccination Options
	Resources
	Questions
	Closing

# Vaccination Timeline



## PHASE ONE

*In order of priority*

- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- First responders (EMS, Fire, Police)
- Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters)
- Home-based healthcare workers
- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care



## PHASE TWO

*In order of priority*

- Individuals with 2+ comorbidities and/or age 75+ (high risk for COVID-19 complications)
- Early education and K-12 workers, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers
- Adults 65+
- Individuals with one comorbidity



## PHASE THREE

Vaccine available to general public

**December - February**

Estimated timeframes

**February - April**

**April - June**

# Congregate Care Settings

- For those programs / sites not enrolled in the Federal Pharmacy Partnership Program, the first wave of vaccination of staff and residents over a certain age is expected to **begin** the week of **January 18<sup>th</sup>**
- DPH will be ready to allocate vaccines to sites within this phase when sites are ready.

# Who is included?: Residential Congregate Care Programs

**Organizations that operate residential congregate care programs include but is not limited to:**

- Group homes, residential treatment programs, community-based acute residential treatment programs and clinical stabilization service programs funded, operated, licensed, and/or regulated by the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC), the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Department of Youth Services (DYS), the Department of Mental Health (DMH), the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), the Department of Veterans' Services (DVS), the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB), and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC)
- Emergency shelter programs, including individual and family homeless shelters, domestic violence and sexual assault shelters, Veterans' shelters
- Approved private special education schools which offer residential services and are approved by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

# Who is included?: Residential Congregate Care Staff

“Staff” includes all persons, paid or unpaid, working or volunteering at each of the congregate care and shelter program physical locations, who have the potential for exposure to residents or to infectious materials, including body substances, contaminated medical supplies and equipment, contaminated environmental surfaces, or contaminated air.

# Who is included?: Residents / Clients

- Individuals who are approved under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the COVID-19 vaccine
  - EUA has been approved for individuals ages 16 and up (Pfizer) or ages 18 and up (Moderna)

# About the COVID-19 Vaccines

There are currently two available COVID-19 vaccines:

- The Moderna vaccine may be administered to individuals 18 and older
- The Pfizer vaccine may be administered to individuals 16 and older
- Both vaccines require two doses for an individual to be fully vaccinated. It is critical that the second dose:
  - Be the same vaccine (i.e. Moderna or Pfizer) as the first dose
  - Be administered from the same location as the first dose
  - Be administered at the specified time
    - Moderna - 28 days after first dose
    - Pfizer - 21 days after first dose

CDC websites on [Moderna](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Moderna.html) and [Pfizer](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Pfizer-BioNTech.html) vaccines

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Moderna.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Pfizer-BioNTech.html>



# Vaccine Safety

- The vaccine products being distributed in Massachusetts have received an EUA and have been determined to be safe by the FDA
- Vaccines go through more testing than any other pharmaceuticals, including extensive testing in clinical trials
- The FDA and the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) ensure any vaccine is both safe and effective
- Infectious disease leads in Massachusetts' academic medical centers convened a Task Force to provide the Commonwealth with an independent, non-governmental evaluation of each COVID-19 vaccine approved under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). Following its review of the safety and efficacy data, the Task Force unanimously recommended that the Commonwealth deploy the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine
- COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Agreement requires reporting moderate and severe adverse event to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)

# Vaccine Deployment Options

- **Option #1:** Program “Self-Administration”
- **Option #2:** Leverage Existing Pharmacy Partnerships or other Medical Provider Relationships
- **Option #3:** Mass Vaccination Sites

# Option #1: Program “Self-Administration”

Organizations that have the capability to directly receive and administer COVID-19 vaccines can request vaccine from DPH after meeting the following requirements. This option is likely to be the most convenient for your staff and residents and the quickest method for them to obtain the vaccine. Self-administering organizations must plan to vaccinate 200 individuals.

1. Review the [DPH Guide for Applying to Administer the COVID-19 Vaccine](#).
2. Onboard to DPH’s Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS) and enroll in the Massachusetts COVID-19 Vaccine Program (MCVP).
  - a. If your site is not fully registered and on-boarded to submit vaccine-administered data to the Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS), email the MIIS at [miishelpdesk@mass.gov](mailto:miishelpdesk@mass.gov).
  - b. If you did not receive the Massachusetts COVID-19 Program (MCVP) Enrollment Form contact the MDPH Vaccine Unit at [dph-vaccine-management@massmail.state.ma.us](mailto:dph-vaccine-management@massmail.state.ma.us).
3. Identify a practitioner to write a [Standing Order for Administering Vaccine](#); and
  - Have [freezer/refrigeration storage capacity](#) to store the Moderna vaccine.
  - Have the organizational capacity to vaccinate individuals and staff, including [approved health care personnel](#) to serve as vaccinators and to observe individuals post-vaccine.
4. Adhere to screening, onsite protocols, consent, tracking and second dose guidance.

## Option #2: Leverage Existing Pharmacy Partnerships or other Medical Provider Relationships

Programs may have existing pharmacy partnerships through regular flu vaccine clinics, and/or other existing relationships with local hospitals, health care practices, community health centers, university health centers, or VNAs, and these partnerships may be leveraged to administer COVID-19 vaccines.

Programs are encouraged to contact existing health care partners to determine if they have the capacity to operate a vaccine clinic or mobile vaccine distribution.

If you identify a clinical partner your agency contact can work with DPH to ensure your clinical partner is allocated vaccine.

# Option #3: Mass Vaccination Sites

- In the next few weeks, the Commonwealth will launch mass vaccination sites.
- Sites will require appropriate identification to establish individuals meet the congregate care prioritization criteria.
- Vaccination locations and appropriate forms of identification with guidance for employers and employees will be posted.



## COVID-19 Vaccine in Massachusetts

Massachusetts is preparing for the safe, equitable, and effective delivery of an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine. Learn about the approach and when you can expect to get vaccinated.

[WHEN CAN I GET THE VACCINE?](#)

# Resources

*Coming Soon: Webpage for Residential Congregate Care and Shelter Providers*

- **The COVID-19 vaccine FAQ**
    - <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-frequently-asked-questions-vaccine-providers>
  - **The COVID-19 vaccine distribution timeline**
    - <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/when-can-i-get-the-covid-19-vaccine>
  - **Information on fact sheets in multiple languages**
    - <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/stop-covid-19-vaccine-graphics>
  - **Weekly Data Dashboard**
    - <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccination-program#weekly-covid-19-vaccination-report->
- Agency Points of Contact dedicated for each provider category

# Questions Received from Survey

- Eligibility for vaccine during Phase 1
- Timelines for allocation and distribution
- Logistics for allocation and distribution
- Education and training materials
- Privacy and safety considerations
- Liability concerns
- Site-specific questions

*Note: Surveillance testing will be required after staff are vaccinated.* 16



# Questions: Please use chat function

## Agency Points of Contact

Department of Developmental Services – [cynthia.f.miller@mass.gov](mailto:cynthia.f.miller@mass.gov)

Department of Children and Families – [ryan.m.fitzgerald@mass.gov](mailto:ryan.m.fitzgerald@mass.gov)

Department of Mental Health – [beth.lucas@mass.gov](mailto:beth.lucas@mass.gov)

Department of Public Health BSAS – [therese.m.fleisher@mass.gov](mailto:therese.m.fleisher@mass.gov)

Department of Public Health SDV Shelters – [christopher.newman@mass.gov](mailto:christopher.newman@mass.gov)

Department of Veterans Services – [claire.makrinikloas@mass.gov](mailto:claire.makrinikloas@mass.gov)

Department of Youth Services – [ruth.rovezzi@mass.gov](mailto:ruth.rovezzi@mass.gov)

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission – [sandy.biber@mass.gov](mailto:sandy.biber@mass.gov)

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind – [lesli.baker.johnson@mass.gov](mailto:lesli.baker.johnson@mass.gov)

DESE special education residential schools – [patti.mackin@mass.gov](mailto:patti.mackin@mass.gov)

Individual & Family Shelters – [thomas.brigham@mass.gov](mailto:thomas.brigham@mass.gov)

# Closing



[www.mass.gov/covidvaccine](http://www.mass.gov/covidvaccine)