The COVID-19vaccination program is based on the following goals:

1. Prevention of morbidity and mortality
2. Reduce transmission of the disease
3. Preservation of societal functioning, minimize disruption to society and the economy, including maintaining healthcare capacity
4. Ensuring equity in vaccine allocation and distribution
5. Ensuring safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines

The phases were developed based on which individuals have the highest exposure risk in combination of those individuals at risk of suffering the worst health outcomes in KY.

**COVID-19 Exposure Risk Levels**

Very high exposure risk:

* Healthcare workers who perform aerosol-generating procedures
* Healthcare or laboratory personnel collecting or handling potential COVID-19 specimens
* Morgue workers performing autopsies on persons known or suspected to have had COVID-19 at the time of death

High exposure risk:

* Healthcare and healthcare support workers who perform direct patient care
* Medical transport workers moving known or suspected COVID-19 patients
* Mortuary workers involved in preparing bodies
* Other essential personnel with high potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19

Medium exposure risk:

* Persons working in critical infrastructure jobs wherein they may have contact with the general public (e.g. transit workers, grocery and pharmacy workers, sanitation workers, high-volume retail workers, educators)
* Persons who may have frequent contact with travelers who return from international locations with widespread COVID-19 transmission

Low exposure risk:

* Persons who do not require contact with the general public
* Persons who do not require contact with potential sources of COVID-19
* Persons who are teleworking
* Office workers who do not have frequent close contact with coworkers, customers, or the public
* Manufacturing and industrial facility workers who do not have frequent close contact with coworkers, customers, or the public
* Healthcare workers providing only telemedicine services
* Long-distance truck drivers

**KY COVID-19 Vaccination Phases 1 a and 1b**

**Phase 1a**

* Long-term care facility residents and staff (represents nearly 70% of COVID-19 fatalities in KY)
* Assisted living facility residents and staff
* Healthcare personnel in clinical settings (inpatient, outpatient, dental, home-based and includes medical first responders such as EMTs and paramedics)

**Phase 1b**

* Persons > 70 years of age
* 1st responders
* K-12 school personnel

Persons > 70 years of age represents 11.3% of Kentuckians but those > 70 have:

* 3-4x risk of hospitalization
* Nearly 4x risk of ICU admission and
* Represent 75% of all of KY COVID-19 deaths

**Phase 1c**- individuals 18 and older with medical conditions.

**Phase 2**- Anyone 18 and older

**Recommended LMG workforce priority**

1. Patient contact; clinical staff, medical 1st responders (paramedics, EMT’s,) handle COVID samples (lab, specimen collectors), vaccination personnel
2. Frontline essential workers, staff in congregate living facilities (corrections), other 1st Responders, Staff > 70 years of age
3. Field staff with public interaction; inspections, permitting. Staff > 65 years of age, staff with medical conditions that increase the risk for severe COVID-19§
4. Office public facing staff; front desk, security
5. Other in-person employees
6. Employees who tele-work

**Exclusions for vaccination**: vaccination will not be administered to patients who are currently febrile or have received another vaccine within 14 days.

Relative contraindications for vaccination: patients with history of anaphylaxis to polyethylene glycol or other vaccine ingredients, or women who are currently pregnant, may receive the vaccine if they agree to an extended observation period (30 minutes rather than the standard 15).

**LMG Vaccination Administration**

The federal and state government control how much vaccine is sent to local cities and counties. Currently, there are limited doses in Louisville and the first priority is vaccinating healthcare workers.

**Phase 1a**- Mass vaccination drive-thru events, by appointment only, are underway at KFEC, Boadbent Arena for healthcare workers not affiliated with a major hospital system, of which there are approximately 40,000 in Jefferson County. Eligible individuals include physicians, dentists, pharmacists, podiatrists, optometrists, nurses, physical and occupational therapists, audiologists, office staff, laboratory personnel, home health personnel, mortuary personnel and others. (Long term care residents and staff vaccinations are provided by Walgreens and CVS)

**Phase 1b**, which includes nonmedical first responders, educators, corrections staff and adults over the age of 70, will begin in early to mid-February at Broadbent Arena and additional locations, TBA, in collaboration with the Vaccine Task Force.

As more doses of vaccine become available, vaccinations should be widely accessible through multiple sources in the community.

Until most of us can be vaccinated, wearing a mask and keeping our distance is still essential to protecting ourselves, our families, and our communities. Even as we celebrate the development of safe and effective vaccines, these safety measures - including staying home when you may be sick - remain crucial parts of our effort to eliminate this pandemic.

**CDC/ACIP Recommendations for Allocation within Phase 1 and 2 of the COVID-19 vaccination program**

**Phase 1a**

* High-risk health workers
* Long Term Care Facility residents and staff
* Other Health care personnel

**Phase 1b** Essential workers\* (non-health care)

* Persons aged ≥75 years
* Frontline essential workers: non-medical first responders (e.g., firefighters and police officers), corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, U.S. Postal Service workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the education sector (teachers and support staff members) as well as child care workers.
* Persons and staff living or working in congregate housing such as homeless shelters, group homes, prisons, jails, and detention centers

**Phase 1c**

* Persons aged 65-74 years
* All other essential workers: workers in transportation and logistics, water and wastewater, food service, shelter and housing (e.g., construction), finance (e.g., bank tellers), information technology and communications, energy, legal, media, and public safety (e.g., engineers), and local government officials.
* Persons aged 16-64 years† with medical conditions that increase the risk for severe COVID-19§

**Phase 2**

* Phase 2 includes all other persons aged ≥16 years not already recommended for vaccination in Phases 1a, 1b, or 1c.