

December 2, 2020

Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership Strategy for COVID-19 Vaccination for General Public Program

Summary of Program for Jurisdictions

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are partnering with pharmacies to increase access to COVID-19 vaccine once one or more vaccines are authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use in the United States. There are two federal pharmacy programs: The [Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program](#) and the Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership Strategy for COVID-19 Vaccination. Through the Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership Strategy for COVID-19 Vaccination, retail pharmacy partners can help jurisdictions augment access to vaccine when supply increases and vaccine is recommended beyond the initial populations. With more than 90% of people in the United States living within five miles of a pharmacy, pharmacies have unique reach and ability to provide access to COVID-19 vaccine and support broad vaccination efforts. This program will provide critical vaccination services for the U.S. population, with vaccine administered at store locations at no cost to recipients. The program will be implemented in close coordination with jurisdictions to ensure optimal COVID-19 vaccination coverage and vaccine access nationwide.

Program activation will be on a national scale, with select pharmacy partners receiving a direct allocation of COVID-19 vaccine. Timing and scale of activation (how many partners, how many stores) will depend on various factors, including supply. The federal retail pharmacy program does not include every pharmacy in the United States. Pharmacies not included in the federal program will need to coordinate with their jurisdictions to become COVID-19 vaccination providers.

Program Participants

Chain pharmacies and networks of independent pharmacists are eligible for this program. As of Thursday, November 27, the following pharmacy partners have signed on to participate in this program:

Chain Partners

- Walgreens (incl. Duane Reade)
- CVS Pharmacy, Inc. (incl. Long's)
- Walmart, Inc. (incl. Sam's Club)
- Rite Aid Corp.
- The Kroger Co. (incl. Kroger, Harris Teeter, Fred Meyer, Frys, Ralphs, King Soopers, Smiths, City Market, Dillons, Marianos, Pick-n-Save, Copps, Metro Market)
- Publix Super Markets, Inc.
- Costco Wholesale Corp.
- Albertsons Companies, Inc. (incl. Osco, Jewel-Osco, Albertsons, Albertsons Market, Safeway, Tom Thumb, Star Market, Shaws, Haggen, Acme, Randalls, Carrs, Market Street, United, Vons, Pavilions, Amigos, Lucky's, Pak n Save, Sav-On)
- Hy-Vee, Inc.
- Meijer Inc.
- H-E-B, LP
- Retail Business Services, LLC (incl. Food Lion, Giant Food, The Giant Company, Hannaford Bros Co, Stop & Shop)
- Winn-Dixie Stores Inc. (incl. Winn-Dixie, Harveys, Fresco Y Mas)

Network Administrators*

- Topco Associates, LLC (incl. Acme Fresh Markets, Associated Food Stores, Big-Y Pharmacy and Wellness Center, Brookshire's Pharmacy, Super One Pharmacy, FRESH by Brookshire's Pharmacy, Coborn's Pharmacy, Cash Wise Pharmacy, MarketPlace Pharmacy, Giant Eagle, Hartig Drug Company, King Kullen, Food City Pharmacy, Ingles Pharmacy, Raley's, Bel Air, Nob Hill Pharmacies, Save Mart Pharmacies, Lucky Pharmacies, SpartanNash, Price Chopper, Market 32, Tops Friendly Markets, ShopRite, Wegmans, Weis Markets, Inc.)
- CPESN USA, LLC
- Good Neighbor Pharmacy and AmerisourceBergen Drug Corporation's pharmacy services administrative organization (PSAO), Elevate Provider
- Health Mart Systems, Inc.
- LeaderNET and Medicine Shoppe, Cardinal Health's PSAOs
- Managed Health Care Associates

Based on their (1) size and reach, (2) capability to store vaccines and ensure cold chain management, (3) ability to meet data reporting requirements for jurisdictions and CDC, and (4) estimated daily number of doses each facility is able to administer, these partners stand ready to assist jurisdictions in COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Together, these pharmacy partners will extend the COVID-19 vaccination provider network to over 40,000 store locations. Participating pharmacies have signed a COVID-19 partner agreement with HHS, agreeing to the terms of the federal program. Jurisdictions do not need to enroll these pharmacies separately to receive vaccine as part of this program. Store lists for each of these partners will be shared with jurisdictions.

Program Activation

- The program will be activated on a national scale based on various factors, including supply, demand, and need for expanded access to COVID-19 vaccine beyond initial groups.
- The program will roll out incrementally in close coordination with jurisdictions.
- CDC is mapping out how to coordinate rollout to maximize coverage within each jurisdiction once the program is activated. Details will be shared with jurisdictions as soon as they are available.

Program Implementation

- Once the program is activated, pharmacy partners will directly order and receive COVID-19 vaccine from the federal government.
- Vaccine will be provided at no cost to the chain pharmacy and will be administered at store locations at no cost to vaccine recipients.
- On a daily basis, pharmacy partners must report to CDC the number of doses of COVID-19 vaccine (a) ordered by store location in VTrckS and (b) on hand in each store reported through VaccineFinder. Pharmacy providers will also be required to report CDC-defined vaccine administration data elements to jurisdiction immunization information systems (IISs) or through other agreed upon methods (e.g., formatted data extracts) if IIS reporting is not available. Reporting agreements will be defined by CDC.
- Pharmacy partners will provide a point of contact for each jurisdiction to answer questions related to allocation of vaccine in store locations in their jurisdictional area.
- This federal program is provided to support jurisdictions. Jurisdictions may choose to opt out of this program prior to program activation.

For questions about the Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership Strategy for COVID-19 Vaccination Program, please contact eocevent481@cdc.gov.

**These pharmacy networks represent independent pharmacies and smaller regional chains. Pharmacies that enroll through these networks (network administrators) will be screened by the network administrator to ensure the store can manage the receipt, storage, handling, and reporting requirements for COVID-19 vaccine. The pharmacy must sign a provider agreement through the network administrator. These independent and regional pharmacy locations must meet the same requirements as other COVID-19 vaccination providers. The network administrators will collect these agreements on behalf of CDC.*