

Thursday January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccination Program is underway. Because the supply of vaccine is currently limited, Ohio's program is designed to first get the vaccine in the arms of Ohioans who are most vulnerable and at-risk. As more vaccine becomes available, eligibility to receive the vaccine will be expanded.

The graphic is a blue and yellow banner titled "Ohio's Vaccination Program" with the subtitle "Phase 1B Vaccination Start Dates". It lists four start dates with corresponding eligibility criteria, each accompanied by a calendar icon with a checkmark. The dates are January 19, January 25, February 1, and February 8. A yellow banner below the dates states: "All available vaccines will be administered to those who choose to receive it." At the bottom, there are logos for "OHIO TOGETHER", "MIKE DEWINE GOVERNOR OF OHIO", "Ohio Department of Health", and the website "coronavirus.ohio.gov".

Date	Eligibility Criteria
January 19	Ages 80 and older.
January 25	Ages 75 and older. Those with severe congenital, developmental, and early onset medical disorders.
February 1	Ages 70 and older. Employees of K-12 schools that wish to remain or return to in-person or hybrid learning.
February 8	Ages 65 and older.

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### Who is eligible for a vaccine?

Phase 1b began January 19<sup>th</sup> and runs through the week of February 8<sup>th</sup>. Each week additional Ohioans become eligible to receive the vaccine. If you or a family member fall into one of the groups identified in the chart above, **make a plan**. Determine where you want to go to get vaccinated and how to schedule an appointment. Scheduling typically begins several days before the start date illustrated in the chart and appointment times fill fast. If you can't get an appointment the first week you become eligible, don't give up. Keep trying! Stay up-to-date on vaccine eligibility at the [Ohio Department of Health vaccination program site](https://vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov/).

### How can I schedule an appointment to receive a vaccine?

Currently, vaccines are being administered by hospital systems (OhioHealth, Mount Carmel and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center), public health departments (Columbus and Franklin County Public Health) and limited pharmacies across central Ohio. Your primary care physician may also be able to provide direction (or options). Below is a list of local providers along with a phone number and/or website for scheduling purposes. The Ohio Department of Health's website offers a statewide searchable database of providers at <https://vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov/>.

- Franklin County Public Health: call 614-525-5225 or visit their website at <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/4hnvt7vq/>
- Columbus Public Health: call 614-645-1519
- The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center: call 614-688-8299

- OhioHealth: schedule through MyChart if you are a patient or call 614-533-6999
- Mount Carmel: visit their website at <https://www.mountcarmelhealth.com/health-and-wellness/covid-19/vaccine-scheduling>
- To identify a local pharmacy, search the Ohio Department of Health's provider database: <https://vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov/>

**Where can I get more information, including about the safety of the vaccine?**

For more information about COVID-19, the vaccine program or to learn about the development, efficacy and safety of the vaccine, see the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) resources provided below.

- [COVID-19 Vaccination Program \(ODH\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Myths vs Facts \(ODH\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ \(FCPH\)](#)

For **general questions** regarding COVID-19, please contact:

- Franklin County Public Health: 614-525-3097
- Columbus Public Health: 614-645-1519
- Ohio Department of Health: 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634)

**I have health coverage through the Franklin County Cooperative. What are my options?**

At this time, there are no on-site/worksites COVID-19 vaccination options. The Cooperative health plan and ThriveOn wellness program are continuing to research our options and will provide updates if/when they are available. If you obtain a vaccination and a claim is filed with the health plan, it will be covered 100%.