

WASHINGTON'S COVID-19 VACCINE PHASES

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DECEMBER 2020 – PRESENT 2021

- High-risk health care workers in health care settings
- High-risk first responders
- Long-term care facility residents
- All other workers at risk in health care settings
- All people **65 years or older**
- All people **50 years or older** in multigenerational households (home where individuals from 2 or more generations reside such as an elder and a grandchild)
- Educators and staff for pre-K through 12th grade
- Child care providers
- High-risk critical workers who work in certain congregate settings: Agriculture; fishing vessel crews; food processing; grocery stores; corrections; prisons, jails or detention centers; public transit; remaining first responders
- People **16 years or older** who are pregnant or have a disability that puts them at high risk for severe COVID-19 illness.
- People **16 years or older** with 2 or more co-morbidities or underlying conditions
- All people **60 years and older**
- People, staff and volunteers in certain congregate living settings: Correctional facilities; groups homes for people with disabilities; settings where people experiencing homelessness live or access services
- High-risk critical workers in certain congregate settings: restaurants, food services, construction and manufacturing

FOCUS ON EQUITY: This approach prioritizes population groups who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 due to external social factors and systemic inequities, including people of color; people with limited English proficiency; people in shared housing, crowded housing, and multigenerational homes; people in poverty and low-wage earners; people with disabilities that are connected to underlying health conditions that may put them at higher risk of COVID-19; and people with access barriers to healthcare. The [social vulnerability index](#) is one of several inputs informing equitable vaccine allocation.

NOTE: Immigration and health insurance status do not impact eligibility.

The timeline represented here is tentative and subject to change based on vaccine supply and demand.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CO-MORBIDITIES

Morbidity is a medical term that means illness or disease. Co-morbidities means more than one illness or disease occurring in one person at the same time. Phase 1 – Tier 3 includes people with 2 more comorbidities or underlying conditions that put them at increased risk for severe illness if infected with COVID. This list of these conditions can be found on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>.

CONGREGATE SETTING

An environment where individuals work and/or reside in an enclosed space and where they are interacting with a high volume of people over an extended period of time and not able to consistently maintain physical distance.

CRITICAL WORKERS

Individuals working in an industry that maintains critical infrastructure for social and economic systems in our state. (See reverse side for detailed list.)

HIGH-RISK WORKERS IN A HEALTH CARE SETTING

Workers who are at higher risk of COVID-19 infection because they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Administer COVID-19 testing or handle COVID-19 specimens
- Administer COVID-19 vaccine or have patient contact in a COVID-19 vaccination site.
- Work at a community-based, congregate living facility (for example, long-term care facility, adult family home or residential care community) where people over 65 years old receive care, supervision or assistance.
- A professional care provider to someone who is at higher risk of severe outcomes if infected with COVID-19 (for example, home health aide, dialysis provider, or cancer treatment provider).bv

HIGH-RISK WORKERS IN A HEALTH CARE SETTING (CON'T)

- Worker (for example, health care provider, security, environmental management) in a setting that provides direct care for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients.
- First responder (for example, EMS, police or firefighter) in settings where direct care is provided to suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients.
- Worker at high risk of infection and transmission of COVID-19 because of exposure to the general public.

LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY

For the purposes of the vaccine allocation guidance, long-term care facilities are defined as community-based, congregate living settings where most individuals over 65 years of age are receiving care, supervision, or assistance and are unable to reside independently in the community.

MULTIGENERATIONAL HOUSEHOLD

Household where individuals from 2 or more generations reside such as an elder and a grandchild. Does **not** include a parent or guardian caring for a child or teen.

WORKERS IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS

This includes the full spectrum of workers at health agencies including all types of staff (e.g., contracted, part-time, unpaid/volunteer) and the spectrum of staff who provide services (e.g., ambulatory, direct patient care, support services). It is inclusive of Community Health Workers, home care aides, health care interpreters, doulas, caregivers, and personal care providers.

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