



GRANVILLE VANCE

public health

MEDIA RELEASE

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CONTACT

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UPDATE: The new year is here, and so is COVID-19 vaccine – we in public health are so glad to have another tool in our toolbox to use to fight off this pandemic once and for all! Everyone who wants a vaccine will get one – just understand we cannot vaccinate EVERYONE tomorrow, this week, or even this month. But it will be your turn before too long! We must have groups and a specific order of things to get to everyone as efficiently as possible.

Granville and Vance Counties are currently in the Phase 1a distribution and we are giving vaccines every day. We plan to move to Phase 1b, Group 1 (only those aged 75 and over), on Thursday, January 14th as we continue prioritizing those at highest risk for severe illness and death due to COVID-19. It will take us through the month of March to make good progress in all the groups within these first two phases (1a and 1b). We expect to be move from phase 1b into other phases in the spring.

For this initial phase, 1a, we are reaching out to eligible health care organizations and individuals with additional instructions to sign up for vaccination. **Please wait until the phase you are eligible for is announced on the radio, the newspaper, or on our GVPH COVID-19 Vaccine website at <https://gvph.org/covidvaccines/> to reach out to the health department about making an appointment for the vaccine. We will provide more information the week of January 11th about how to register in the mandatory statewide COVID Vaccine Management System (CVMS). There is a survey everyone must fill out as part of registration and the system is not accessible to individuals at this time.**

For individuals in Phase 1b, Group 1 (only individuals who are 75 and older), beginning the week of January 11th, they can call the health department to register and schedule their appointment. Any other instructions that may help make your vaccine appointment move faster (such as forms you need to fill out ahead of your appointment) will be posted on our website. If you are not in Phase 1a or Phase 1b Group 1, please refrain from contacting the health department until we announce we are moving into later groups and phases. Given the volume of calls we are receiving, a Granville Vance COVID Vaccine Information Hotline has been established at 252-295-1503.

All states have limited vaccine right now and we cannot get vaccine to everyone at once. Our vaccine supplies are dictated by the state and sent based on population. We do not have control over how much vaccine comes to us. This will be a months-long process.

Only hospitals and health departments have the vaccine at this moment, but in the coming weeks and months, primary care offices, pharmacies, and federally qualified health centers will receive vaccine and be able to vaccinate community members as well. Over time, the vaccine will become more and more easily accessible. Our team at Granville Vance Public Health is working together with Granville Health System and Maria Parham Health to ensure we are being collaborative, efficient, and wise about vaccine distribution. Again, we are all confident there will be enough vaccine available over time – more comes in every week.


We are prioritizing community members in accordance with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) vaccine distribution plan. As state guidance reiterates, “To save lives and slow the spread of COVID-19, independent state and federal public health advisory committees recommend first protecting health care workers caring for patients with COVID-19, people who are at the highest risk of being hospitalized or dying, and those at high risk of exposure to COVID-19.” **Timelines for moving through the priority phases will differ slightly by county across the state depending on supply of vaccine, demand for vaccine, population numbers in each county, and staffing in each county. We will announce on our website and to the media when we move into new phases to ensure all of our community members know when it is their turn to get vaccinated.**

Thank you for your patience and grace as we work as hard as we can to get to everyone just as soon as we can. We are a small (but mighty) public health team! In addition to vaccine distribution, we are still responding to high numbers of COVID-19 cases and outbreaks through our communicable disease team and we have as many people on vaccine distribution as we can. Therefore, it is really important to keep practicing the 3 Ws —wear a mask, wait six feet apart, wash your hands—until everyone has a chance to be vaccinated.

Covid-19 Vaccinations: Your best shot at stopping COVID-19.

YOU HAVE A **SPOT.** TAKE YOUR **SHOT.**

You have a spot, take your shot. A tested, safe and effective vaccine will be available to all who want it, but supplies will be limited at first. To save lives and slow the spread of COVID-19, independent state and federal public health advisory committees recommend first protecting health care workers caring for patients with COVID-19, people who are at the highest risk of being hospitalized or dying, and those at high risk of exposure to COVID-19. Keep practicing the 3 Ws—wear a mask, wait six feet apart, wash your hands—until everyone has a chance to get vaccinated.

1a Health care workers fighting COVID-19 & Long-Term Care staff and residents.	1b Adults 75 years or older and frontline essential workers.	2 Adults at high risk for exposure and at increased risk of severe illness.	3 Students	4 Everyone who wants a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccination.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health care workers caring for and working directly with patients with COVID-19, including staff responsible for cleaning and maintenance in those areas Health care workers administering vaccine Long-term care staff and residents—people in skilled nursing facilities and in adult, family and group homes 	<p>There is not enough vaccine for everyone in this phase to be vaccinated at the same time. Vaccinations will be available to groups in the following order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 1: Anyone 75 years or older, regardless of health status or living situation Group 2: Health care workers and frontline essential workers 50 years or older* Group 3: Health care workers and frontline essential workers of any age <p><small>* The CDC defines frontline essential workers as 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</small></p>	<p>Vaccinations will happen by group in the following order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 1: Anyone 65-74 years old, regardless of health status or living situation Group 2: Anyone 16-64 years old with high-risk medical conditions that increase risk of severe disease from COVID-19 such as cancer, COPD, serious heart conditions, sickle cell disease, Type 2 diabetes, among others, regardless of living situation Group 3: Anyone who is incarcerated or living in other close group living settings who is not already vaccinated due to age, medical condition or job function Group 4: Essential workers not yet vaccinated* <p><small>* The CDC defines these as 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 public health workers</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College and university students K-12 students age 16 and over. Younger children will only be vaccinated when the vaccine is approved for them 	

For more information:
YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov

