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# Loudoun County, Virginia

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Loudoun County Makes Significant Progress on Vaccination Waitlist; Encourages Continued Pre-Registration**

Loudoun County continues to make progress through the waitlist of people who are preregistered for a COVID-19 vaccine. As a result, the county is currently making vaccination
appointments for people who are pre-registered and in <u>Virginia's Phase 1a and 1b priority groups</u>.

Anyone who has not yet pre-registered for a COVID-19 vaccine and is among those in the Phase 1a
and 1b priority groups—such as health care workers, people 65 years and older and 16-to-64 years
old with <u>high-risk medical conditions</u> or a disability, and front-line essential workers listed in the
eleven categories of the Phase 1b priority group—should pre-register for a vaccine as soon as
possible.

"What this means is that if you are in Phase 1a or 1b, we are now able to offer you a vaccination appointment within a week or so of your pre-registration," said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend. "The time between pre-registration and invitation for a vaccination appointment is no longer taking weeks for this group, so if you haven't signed up yet, now is the time to do so."

The Health Department encourages anyone who has already pre-registered for a vaccine and is in the Phase 1a or 1b priority groups, but has not yet been contacted by the county for a vaccination appointment, to take two actions:

- First, check your spam or junk email folder for an email from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) which is used to pre-register, to ensure the invitation for an appointment was not sent there.
- Second, if you have not received an email, contact the county by calling 703-737-8300, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

"We recognize that there are some glitches with some pre-registrations, so we're taking steps to ensure no one falls through the cracks," said Dr. Goodfriend.

## **How to Pre-Register**

Anyone who has not yet pre-registered for a COVID-19 vaccine may do so in one of two ways:

- Online: Visit <u>vaccinate.virginia.gov</u>. The fastest method for receiving a vaccination appointment is to include email addresses in the pre-registration form for each individual who will receive a vaccine.
- **Phone:** Individuals who do not have access to the internet can pre-register by calling 1-877-829-4682.

As the county continues to make progress vaccinating people who are in the current priority groups and continues to receive increasing amounts of vaccine doses, the Health Department will expand vaccination opportunities to more people.

"At our current pace, I expect we will begin offering vaccination appointments to people who are on our waitlist and in the Phase 1c priority group within the next week or two," noted Dr. Goodfriend. "This is why we're eager to make every effort now to have every high-risk person in 1a and 1b pre-register and receive a vaccine appointment now."

The Virginia Department of Health has indicated that COVID-19 vaccines will be offered to everyone age 16 and older by April 18, 2021.

To follow the county's progress on vaccine administration, visit <u>loudoun.gov/vaccinedata</u>.

## Stay Vigilant in Slowing the Spread of COVID-19

The CDC has published guidance for fully vaccinated people; however, the CDC also recommends that even people who are fully vaccinated keep taking precautions in public places. The Loudoun County Health Department encourages Loudoun residents who received a COVID-19 vaccine to continue taking the steps that help prevent the spread of COVID-19, including:

- Avoid crowds of people.
- Stay 6 feet away from others who do not live in your household at all times.
- Wear a face covering when in public to protect yourself and others.
- Wash hands frequently.
- Avoid non-essential travel, particularly carpooling with people who do not live in your household.
- Avoid visiting unvaccinated people who are at <u>increased risk of severe illness or death</u> from COVID-19.

Learn more about how to protect yourself and others on the CDC's website.

#### **COVID-19 Testing**

Loudoun County continues to offer free COVID-19 testing weekly. More information about COVID-19 testing opportunities is posted online at <a href="loudoun.gov/covid19testing">loudoun.gov/covid19testing</a>.

### **Stay Informed**

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19.

- Sign up for email and text updates about Loudoun's response to COVID-19 at loudoun.gov/coronavirus.
- Opt in to receive text message updates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic:

- o English: Text LCCOVID19 to 888777
- o Spanish: Text LCCOVIDESP to 888777
- Follow the Loudoun County Government <u>Facebook page</u> and <u>@LoudounCoGovt</u> on Twitter.

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