



# CITY OF DOTHAN

## Community Relations Office

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: January 8, 2021**

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### **COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Schedule** **(Phases 1-A, 1-B, 1-C, and Phase 2)**

To provide the public with updated COVID-19 vaccine distribution information, the following phases of delivery have been established by the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) –

#### **Current Phase**

**1a** - Critical healthcare workforce and residents of long-term care

Alabama is currently in Phase 1a, consisting of over 326,000 healthcare workers. The week of December 28, residents of Long-Term Care began vaccination through the federal Pharmacy Partnership.

Healthcare workers in Phase 1a include, but are not limited to, emergency medical service personnel, nurses, nursing assistants, home healthcare personnel, physicians, technicians, therapists, phlebotomists, pharmacists, students and trainees, contractual staff not employed by the healthcare facility, medical supply delivery, mortuary services, and persons not directly involved in patient care, but who could be exposed to infectious agents that can be transmitted in the healthcare setting (e.g., clerical, dietary, environmental services, laundry, security, engineering and facilities management, administrative, billing, and volunteer personnel).

The Medical Association of the State of Alabama provides a list of vaccine clinic locations with appointment dates and times on their Resources for Physicians website and Vaccine for Providers toolkit.

#### **Upcoming Phase (Starting January 18, 2021)**

**1b** - Essential workers at highest risk for work related exposure and persons in identified age groups at risk for COVID-19 associated morbidity and mortality.

**On January 18**, Alabama will move statewide into Phase 1b. To schedule an appointment for the free COVID-19 vaccination at a county health department, call our toll-free phone number at 1-855-566-5333 (currently, heavy call volume) now. Telephone calls are answered from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. seven days a week. Specific information, such as what to bring and what to wear, will be provided when appointments are made. Appointments at locations throughout the state are made first come, first served.

**Phase 1b** includes persons age 75 years and older; frontline essential workers; persons working or living in congregate settings including but not limited to homeless shelters, group homes, prisons, or jails; first responders including firefighters and law enforcement.

Some counties have been able to intermittently vaccinate persons age 75 years and older once the uptake of vaccine for Phase 1a has been satisfied for a daily clinic. ADPH will continue to work with community partners to vaccinate persons in Phase 1a and, as supply allows, persons 75 years and above.

**Phase 1c** - Persons in identified age groups at risk for COVID-19 associated morbidity and mortality not included in Phase 1b; persons with high risk medical conditions; essential workers not recommended for vaccination in Phase 1b

Once persons in Phase 1b have been administered or offered the vaccine, Alabama will move into Phase 1c. ADPH does not have a timeline on this as ability to move to the next phase is dependent on vaccine supply.

Phase 1c includes persons not identified in Phase 1a, Phase 1b, or Phase 1c including persons age 18 years and above; young adults between ages of 18 and 30 years with typically broader social networks, increasing their risk of infection and transmission, but with less likelihood of becoming severely ill or dying due to COVID-19; persons not required to have contact with potential sources of COVID-19; and persons not required to have contact with the general public.

**Phase 2** - All persons in age groups not previously recommended for vaccine (ages 16-64) and general population not included in earlier phases

ADPH has no specific timetable about when members of the general public can be vaccinated. Once the vaccine becomes readily available, the public may visit [vaccinefinder.org](https://vaccinefinder.org) to locate a COVID-19 vaccine provider.

*Continue to Practice Public Health Guidelines Before and After Vaccination*

As the supply of vaccine remains limited, ADPH continues to urge the public to practice the measures needed to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19. Alabama residents should continue to exercise caution by minimizing travel and avoiding gatherings of people beyond their immediate household.

Even after vaccination, we recommend you continue with the other prevention measures, such as washing your hands, wearing a mask, staying six feet apart, and limiting gatherings. Visit Prevention and Treatment for more information.

This information was obtained from -

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/vaccine.html#planning>