Kalamazoo County Update on Vaccine Supply and Vaccination of Phase 1A

Health Department launches Pre-Registration Waitlist Form for Individuals 65+ Years to Receive COVID-19 Vaccine

Kalamazoo, MI – Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department continues to vaccinate individuals in Phase 1A with Pfizer vaccine. The health department is currently only receiving Pfizer vaccine shipment. There have been 2,271 vaccines administered of first and second doses to people in Phase 1A. Last week the health department received a scheduled supply of 1,950 COVID-19 vaccine doses, bringing the total vaccine doses received to 3,900. All vaccine supplies received last week are scheduled for the first and second doses of Phase 1A at this week’s vaccination clinics. We anticipate receiving another vaccine shipment later this week.

Any employer whose employees are eligible in Phase 1A but have not yet been vaccinated through a local health system should complete the health department’s online form. A lead point of contact should complete the form for the employer. This person will be contacted by the Kalamazoo County Health Department, Ascension Borgess, or Bronson Healthcare and will be responsible for coordinating appointments with the health system for employees based on vaccine availability.

Starting Monday, January 11, the updated guidance from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) allows the following to begin receiving the vaccine if vaccine supply is available:

- People age 65 years or older
- Frontline, essential workers with frequent or ongoing exposure as a part of their work. This includes some, but not all essential workers previously designated in 1B. First responders, police officers, jail and prison staff, pre-K-12 teachers and childcare providers are included.

In Kalamazoo County, vaccine supply is limited; therefore, vaccination clinics are only available to those in Phase 1A. Supplies are allocated through the state each week. **However, for those now eligible under the revised guidance, pre-registration waitlist forms are now available on our website, [https://www.kalcounty.com/hcs/covid19vaccine.php](https://www.kalcounty.com/hcs/covid19vaccine.php):**

- Phase 1B Essential Frontline Workers Organization Form (to be completed by the employer)
- Individuals 65 years and older Pre-Registration Waitlist Form
Individuals 65 and older (or those caring for someone 65 years and older) may also call COVID-19 Call Center at 269-373-5200 to be placed on the waitlist. **You can add your name to the waitlist through the online form or by calling. We are experiencing extremely high call volume even with a fully staffed call center. We encourage people to complete the online form so that the phone lines remain open to those who do not have a way to complete the form online or do not have technology to complete the form.**

**Important points:**

- Vaccination is not available at the Health Department and is provided by appointment only at vaccination sites. Do NOT show up at the health department or any vaccination site without an appointment.
- The most up-to-date information is at [www.kalcounty.com/covid19](http://www.kalcounty.com/covid19) and [www.facebook.com/KalamazooCountyHCS](http://www.facebook.com/KalamazooCountyHCS). We will notify the public via press releases, social media, and website.
- Kalamazoo County Government’s website can be converted to Spanish. On any county website, in the top right-hand corner under the social media icons, you will see “Leer en Español”. Click on this and it will translate the page to Spanish. The pre-registration waitlist form will also translate to Spanish.
- If you are eligible because of your work (a critical healthcare infrastructure or frontline essential worker), information may also come through your employer. The Health Department is actively communicating and coordinating efforts with the employers of eligible workers. Those employees should expect scheduling information through their employers.
- Please reserve phone calls for those who cannot easily access online information. The health department’s COVID-19 Call Center is 269-373-5200.

We are actively working with our healthcare partners to vaccinate all of those that are eligible as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience as we prepare for these upcoming vaccination phases and clinics. We may not be able to answer all individual questions as quickly as we would like. Please be assured we are vaccinating as quickly as we can and are sharing information as we have it.

The safety and health of our county is important and we appreciate your patience in moving through the various phases of the vaccination process.

**Additional Resources:**

- Kalamazoo County Health Department Vaccination Website
- Michigan updated 1B vaccination information
- Michigan Prioritization Guidance
- Michigan Vaccine FAQ document
- Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine

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Kalamazoo County Government
Health & Community Services Department

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