



# COVID-19 Vaccine Update: When will it be available to you

We are pleased that the FDA has authorized two safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines. We know many of you have questions about when it will be available to you. Vaccination timing is determined by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and depends on regular shipments of the vaccine. We will be reaching out to you personally when your health condition or age makes you eligible under the state's guidelines. There is no need to contact your doctor at this time.

## What is Massachusetts' vaccine plan?

The Mass DPH has a phased approach to distribution, based on those most at risk for getting a serious case of COVID-19. Health care workers, first responders and nursing home residents have been receiving the vaccine and the state will determine the next group of eligible people. The state's plans could change, so stay up to date at [Massachusetts' vaccine website](#).

### When can I get a COVID-19 vaccine in MA?

PHASE ONE	PHASE TWO	PHASE THREE
<i>In order of priority</i>	<i>In order of priority</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care</li> <li>Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities</li> <li>First responders (EMS, Fire, Police)</li> <li>Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters)</li> <li>Home-based healthcare workers</li> <li>Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals with 2+ comorbidities (high risk for COVID-19 complications), individuals age 75+, and residents and staff of public and private low income and affordable housing</li> <li>Early education and K-12 workers, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers</li> <li>Adults 65+</li> <li>Individuals with one comorbidity</li> </ul>	Vaccine available to general public
<b>December - February</b>	<b>February - April</b>	<b>April - June</b>
<small>Estimated timeframes</small>		

For more information on vaccine distribution visit [Mass.gov/COVIDvaccine](#)

## How will I know when I can get the vaccine?

Your doctor's office will contact you by letter, phone, email or patient portal when you meet the requirements of one of the state's phases. There is no need to contact your doctor now. We promise to keep you informed about the state's rollout plans and when and where you can receive the vaccine.

## What about my friends and family members?

If they are also patients of ours, we will contact them when it is their turn. If they see a doctor with a different health system, that doctor's office should be contacting them. The state also is planning large vaccination clinics for the public.

## What do I need to do in the meantime?

There is nothing you have to do at this time. We are committed to getting the vaccine to every patient as quickly as possible.

You can use this time to [review vaccine information](#) prepared by our expert physicians. Learn about the rigorous review process the vaccines went through and get the facts on vaccine safety and effectiveness.

Please also keep up your safety practices. You are saving lives when you wear masks, stay 6-feet apart and don't gather in groups.

**We look forward to providing you more updates on vaccine timing and locations in the coming days and weeks.**