



Vaccine Availability for Jefferson County Tier 1A Personnel Not Affiliated with a Healthcare System

Wednesday, January 6th 2021

Jefferson County Health Department (JCHD) is helping to provide COVID-19 vaccines to organizations that have frontline healthcare personnel that are not affiliated with a healthcare system, hospital, or long-term care facility. Healthcare systems, hospitals, and long-term care facilities are already being provided with vaccine through different mechanisms - either directly through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, or via the federal Pharmacy Partnership Program.

Following tiers for a phased vaccination defined by a state advisory group, individuals who provide direct patient service or engage in healthcare services that place them into contact with patients who may have COVID-19 are defined as Tier 1A ([PDF](#)), and are currently eligible for vaccine. No other group at this time has been approved to receive vaccine.

JCHD asks that Jefferson County organizations who employ individuals that meet the Tier 1A definition and are not yet matched with a vaccinators submit their information via a survey, which we will provide to you. In order to receive this survey and register for the 1A tier, you must email us at Vaccine@jeffersoncountywi.gov.

JCHD will follow-up with organizations to collect information of individuals eligible for vaccine. As vaccine becomes available, individuals will be matched with appointments. This process may take some time. The public, including those vaccinated, are asked to be patient and to continue everyday precautions consistently to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including limiting gatherings, wearing masks, practicing physical distancing, and washing hands frequently.

Because Tier 1A is limited to direct patient care that is public facing, anyone with the ability to telework is not considered Tier 1A. Though many clinics and organizations would like to get back to working in-person, individuals like hospital workers, emergency workers, etc., do not have the ability to work from home and are being prioritized. All healthcare personnel that currently telework will be considered in future tiers. Given the low supply of vaccine that will be available initially, it is vital that we first vaccinate those who have been prioritized based on many factors to decrease death and disease from COVID-19. **Vaccine will eventually be available for all who desire it.**

Some of the healthcare personnel categories in Tier 1A include:

- Certified nursing assistants, nursing assistants, nurse aides, medical assistants, nurses
- Chiropractors
- Dental services, including dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants
- Direct care personnel, meaning people who provide direct care to patients, including in their homes (e.g, personal care assistant, home health worker)
- Emergency medical responders (EMR), including emergency medical technicians/paramedics and all levels of EMRs
- Environmental, nutrition services, buildings & grounds staff in patient care settings
- Hospice workers
- Long-term care facilities staff
- Pharmacists, pharmacist assistants
- Physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners
- Transportation services to/from health care settings (e.g, testing sites, dialysis centers, ambulatory care)

This is not an exhaustive list. For a full description of who is in Tier 1A, see the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee guidance at:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02858.pdf>.

Jefferson County organizations or individuals who have questions about eligibility can email the Health Department at Vaccine@jeffersoncountywi.gov.

As information about vaccine availability for other tiers becomes available, the Health Department will provide this information. There are no wait lists being formed for vaccines in future tiers at this time. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is developing a registration system for these future groups and for the public. People are encouraged to stay up to date on vaccine information by visiting the Jefferson County COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage or [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#) websites.

Contact: Vaccine@jeffersoncountywi.gov

Helpful Links:

- [JCHD COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage](#)
- [WI Department of Health Services COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage](#)