Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccine Phased Allocation

Phase 1A and 1B Occupations

Last updated December 2020

**General**
This document is meant to serve as a guide when determining which workers are eligible for COVID-19 vaccine distribution in Phases 1A and 1B. As additional guidance becomes available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, this guidance may be updated. Decisions should be made based on the most current data available. This guidance should not be used as the sole tool in determining what phase someone should receive a COVID-19 vaccine and not all occupations may be represented. The spirit of this phasing is more important than the specifics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Healthcare workers - Inpatient and outpatient healthcare workers in high-risk settings such as hospitals, primary care, urgent care and support staff (e.g. hospital food service, housekeeping, front desk, chaplains, etc.) who come into contact with COVID-19 patients for more than 15 minutes over a 24 hour period. Note: Residents of long-term care facilities are also prioritized in Phase 1A but are not addressed in this document.*</td>
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<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Healthcare workers - Inpatient and outpatient healthcare workers in moderate risk settings such as non-COVID hospital floors, dental offices, behavioral health clinics, pharmacies and home health who have less direct contact with COVID-19 patients. Responders - Staff working for EMS, fire, police, COVID response, corrections, and funeral</td>
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Note: The only healthcare workers who should be considered low risk are those providing pure telehealth services or who provide no direct patient care; these workers would be in Phase 2.

*Residents and staff of LTCFs will be vaccinated through the CDC’s Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program.

In general, if an individual is dealing with patients or clients in person then the worker, not the patient, becomes eligible for a vaccine. While individuals with direct interaction with known COVID-19 patients meet the requirements for Phase 1A, interaction with individuals whose status is unknown, for example in the ED and primary care, is possibly at even higher risk. The question to consider when determining risk centers around whether someone’s risk of COVID-19 exposure is higher because of their work. For example, a provider only providing telehealth services with no patient contact, has no greater risk of exposure than the general population so that individual would be in Phase 2, whereas a physical therapist that goes into a home and provides essential therapy is at least moderate risk because their job entails increased risk of exposure over the general population and the therapist would fall into Phase 1B. Occupations in Phase 1A and Phase 1B can be fluid and it is possible for some occupations to span both. For example, not all nurses across the state automatically fall into Phase 1A (e.g. ED nurse vs school nurse). Therefore, it is not possible to precisely determine where an occupation should fall one hundred percent of the time.

As much as possible, COVID-19 vaccination providers should follow Colorado’s Phased Prioritization guidelines. If a provider has vaccinated all of their staff in Phase 1A and still has unused doses, that provider should transfer any remaining doses to another enrolled COVID-19 vaccination provider that has Phase 1A-eligible staff in their county or offer to vaccinate other Phase 1A-eligible staff in their county, such as primary care providers or urgent care staff not connected to a hospital. Note: All vaccine transfer requests must be approved by CDPHE before vaccine is moved. ONLY if there are no options to vaccinate additional Phase 1A-eligible staff in the county should the provider move on to vaccinating their own Phase 1B staff. While this guidance sets the guardrails, some flexibility within those guardrails is also key to ensure no dose is wasted. If faced with a choice of potentially wasting vaccine doses or vaccinating someone a little earlier in Phase 1, providers should choose to vaccinate someone earlier.
State and county occupation estimates: *Coming soon*

**Phase 1A Occupations**
- 29-1051 Pharmacists
- 29-1071 Physician Assistants
- 29-1126 Respiratory Therapists
- 29-1127 Speech-Language Pathologists
- 29-1141 Registered Nurses
- 29-1171 Nurse Practitioners
- 29-1211 Anesthesiologists
- 29-1216 General Internal Medicine Physicians
- 29-1228 Physicians, All Other; & Ophthalmologists, Except Pediatric
- 29-1248 Surgeons, Except Ophthalmologists
- 29-2010 Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians
- 29-2031 Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians
- 29-2033 Nuclear Medicine Technologists
- 29-2052 Pharmacy Technicians
- 29-2061 Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
- 31-1131 Nursing Assistants
- 31-1132 Orderlies
- 31-9095 Pharmacy Aides
- 31-9099 Healthcare Support Workers, All Other
- 37-2012 Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners

**Phase 1B Occupations**
- 11-9111 Medical and Health Services Managers
- 11-9161 Emergency Management Directors
- 11-9171 Funeral Home Managers
- 19-1041 Epidemiologists
- 19-1042 Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists
- 19-4021 Biological Technicians
- 21-1018 Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, & Mental Health Counselors
- 21-1022 Healthcare Social Workers
- 21-1023 Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers
- 21-1029 Social Workers, All Other
- 21-1091 Health Education Specialists
- 21-1094 Community Health Workers
- 29-1021 Dentists, General
- 29-1022 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
- 29-1029 Dentists, All Other Specialists
- 29-1041 Optometrists
- 29-1081 Podiatrists
- 29-1122 Occupational Therapists
- 29-1123 Physical Therapists
- 29-1124 Radiation Therapists
- 29-1125 Recreational Therapists
- 29-1151 Nurse Anesthetists
- 29-1161 Nurse Midwives
- 29-1181 Audiologists
- 29-1215 Family Medicine Physicians
- 29-1218 Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- 29-1221 Pediatricians, General
- 29-1223 Psychiatrists
- 29-1292 Dental Hygienists
- 29-2032 Diagnostic Medical Sonographers
- 29-2034 Radiologic Technologists and Technicians
- 29-2035 Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists
- 29-2040 EMTs and Paramedics
- 29-2051 Dietetic Technicians
- 29-2053 Psychiatric Technicians
- 29-2055 Surgical Technologists
- 29-2057 Ophthalmic Medical Technicians
- 29-2091 Orthotists and Prosthetists
- 29-2092 Hearing Aid Specialists
- 29-2098 Medical Dosimetrist, Medical Records Specialists, and Health Technologists & Technicians, All Other
- 29-9098 Health Information Technologists, Medical Registrars, Surgical Assistants, & Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Workers, All Other
- 31-1120 Home Health and Personal Care Aides
- 31-1133 Psychiatric Aides
- 31-2011 Occupational Therapy Assistants
- 31-2012 Occupational Therapy Aides
- 31-2021 Physical Therapist Assistants
- 31-2022 Physical Therapist Aides
- 31-9091 Dental Assistants
- 31-9092 Medical Assistants
- 31-9093 Medical Equipment Preparers
- 31-9097 Phlebotomists
- 31-1011 First-Line Supervisors of Correctional Officers
- 31-1012 First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives
- 31-1021 First-Line Supervisors of Firefighting & Prevention Workers
- 33-1011 Firefighters
- 33-2021 Fire Inspectors and Investigators
- 33-3012 Correctional Officers and Jailers
- 33-3021 Detectives and Criminal Investigators
- 33-3051 Police and Sheriff’s Patrol Officers
- 35-2012 Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria
- 39-4011 Embalmers
- 39-4021 Funeral Attendants
- 39-4031 Morticians, Undertakers, and Funeral Arrangers
- 39-9098 Crematory Operators and Personal Care & Service Workers, All Other
- 43-5032 Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance
- 49-2091 Avionics Technicians
- 51-9081 Dental Laboratory Technicians
- 53-2021 Air Traffic Controllers
- 53-3011 Ambulance Drivers and Attendants, Except EMTs

**About the Data**
There are known limitations with this data. The occupation codes listed above come from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Definitions of each occupation may be found here: [https://www.bls.gov/soc/2018/major_groups.htm](https://www.bls.gov/soc/2018/major_groups.htm). Some known groups that belong in Phase 1A and 1B are missing from this data set, including, but not limited to, federal response workers in Colorado, and nursing, medical, or pharmacy students who may be involved in vaccination campaigns.