

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services

One Ashburton Place, 11th Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02108

DATE: Thursday, January 21, 2021

TO: Home-based health care workers working in Massachusetts

RE: Home-based Healthcare Worker COVID-19 Vaccine - Important Update 1/21/21

To all home-based health care workers working in Massachusetts:

Effective immediately, all Phase 1 health care workers <u>including home-based health care</u> workers are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.

As a member of the home-based health care community, you play a key role in protecting the health of the individuals you support, as well as your own health, the health of your families and your broader community.

How do I know if I am eligible for the vaccine?

To be eligible as a home-based health care worker for the COVID-19 vaccine under Phase 1, you must be:

A clinical or non-clinical health care or home care worker doing in-person patient-facing care where the work is performed in the home of the patient/health care consumer.

If you provide this type of care, you are eligible to start receiving the vaccine now.

When can I get the vaccine?

You are eligible to receive the vaccine now.

Where do I go to get the vaccine?

There are many different locations where you can sign up to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. A map and downloadable list of vaccination sites can be accessed here.

New vaccination sites are being launched regularly. Check the map frequently for the latest listing of vaccination sites.

How do I sign up for a vaccine appointment?

- Go online to the <u>vaccination site map</u>
- Click the "star" icons () to find a location near you
- Click the link under "Book an appointment" and follow the directions to schedule an appointment.

What do I need to bring to show that I am eligible for the vaccine?

- 1. **Eligibility documentation.** Eligibility will be confirmed through a simplified process referred to as "self-attestation". You can complete this process by filling out the COVID-19 Massachusetts
 Vaccination Form. You must be prepared to show the Attestation Form at your appointment. Important notes:
 - You may complete the attestation form online here. On the website, you can provide your email address if you would like a copy emailed to you.
 - It is acceptable to display the confirmation email on your phone at your appointment.
 - You may print out the online form, fill it out and bring it with you to your appointment.
 - If you cannot print out the form or complete it online, you may fill it out at the vaccination site.
- 2. **Identity documentation.** At your appointment you may be asked for the following information:
 - Insurance card. Vaccination is free whether you have insurance or not. if you have insurance, please bring that information with you.
 - Identification, examples include:
 - o Employer-issued ID card that includes your name and title; or
 - o Government-issued identification or license; or
 - Recent paystub

Note: You can get a vaccine even if you don't have a driver's license or a social security number.

How can I get more information?

- The Command Center will host a Tele-Town Hall for all home-based healthcare workers on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM, in English with live translation to Spanish. You can join this Tele-Town Hall by clicking here or calling 833-946-1566 at 7:00PM on January 21, 2021.
- 2. Regularly check the Massachusetts COVID-19 Vaccine webpage for the latest information.

Is the COVID-19 vaccine safe?

Yes, the COVID-19 vaccines are safe and will work with your immune system so it will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. Getting vaccinated may also protect people around you, particularly people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

To learn more about the safety of the COVID-19 vaccine, please join the Tele-Town Hall on January 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM by clicking here or calling 833-946-1566.

It will be important to continue to wear masks at your job and in the community until enough people are vaccinated. More information will come out when we can go back to "normal" and safely stop wearing masks, but vaccines will help us get there! Thank you for doing your part.

Additional resources:

Massachusetts COVID-19 Vaccine Information