Montgomery County COVID-19 Vaccine Update: Expansion of Preregistration; Telephone Assistance for Preregistration

For Immediate Release: Friday, Feb. 5, 2021

The vaccine process is rapidly changing. Here's a detailed breakdown on the steps the public can take towards getting vaccinated and helping us all to crush the COVID-19 pandemic:

- The County's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) receives an average of 6,000 doses per week from the State which receives its vaccine supply from the federal government.
- At this time, clinics operated by the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (health department), have started vaccinating residents who are 75 years and older (Priority Group 1B).
- While the State has announced that Maryland jurisdictions can begin vaccinating residents in 1C (adults ages 65 and over), not all counties are able to move into that phase.

- Local health officers have the authority to adjust policies and protocols for clinics operated by the County's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) as necessary for the County's population and vaccine supply. The pace at which we started offering vaccinations to those on 1B was impacted by the large number of individuals in Group 1A needing vaccinations, as well as the number of doses received.

To Get Vaccinated at a Clinic Operated by Montgomery County Health and Humans Services:

- Everyone must preregister. We are currently preregistering all groups in Phase 1A, 1B and 1C. Check the County vaccine webpage for preregistration information.

Preregistration information:

- Preregistration is not a vaccination appointment—it places you in the queue by priority group. When vaccine doses arrive, we contact residents from the preregistration list and invite them to make an appointment.
- When invited to make an appointment, preregistered individuals will receive an invitation to make an appointment by phone call or email directly from the County's Department of Health and Human Services. Email invitations will come from c19vaccination@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Other Vaccination Locations:

In addition to the clinics operated by DHHS, hospitals and several community partners have COVID-19 vaccines available to the public. These clinics follow the State guidelines, and not the rules issued by the

County. Therefore, they may be vaccinating priority groups that the County-operated clinics are not. Vaccine supply continues to be limited at all venues in Montgomery County.

Hospitals include:

- [Adventist HealthCare](#)
- [Holy Cross Hospital](#)
- [Kaiser Permanente](#)
- [MedStar Health](#)
- [Suburban Hospital, a subsidiary of Johns Hopkins](#) (Suburban Hospital is prioritizing existing patients in the Hopkins system).

Retail partners include:

- [Giant Pharmacies](#)
- [Safeway](#)

Preregistering on the County's vaccine page does not mean you are registered with other venues.

Telephone Assistance for Preregistering
- Residents are encouraged to assist their neighbors, family members and friends to preregister if they need help.
- Those who are 75 years and older without internet access can call the Preregistration Helpline for assistance at 240-777-2892. Staff are available to callers in English and Spanish. The helpline is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- This line is for preregistration only.
- General questions about vaccinations and COVID-19 can be answered by calling 240-777-1755.

Until the vaccine supply increases, we urge you to continue practicing social distancing, limiting your exposure to individuals outside your household, wearing masks and washing hands.
Residents can also sign up for weekly email or text updates about the vaccination program on the [County's website](#).

For the latest COVID-19 updates, visit the County's [COVID-19 website](#) and follow Montgomery County on Facebook [@MontgomeryCountyInfo](#) and Twitter [@MontgomeryCoMD](#).

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