

From: CT Department of Public Health <noreply-dphimmunizations@ct.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 1:20 PM
To:
Subject: CoVP Provider Bulletin, Week of March 15, 2021



Dear Connecticut COVID-19 Vaccine Providers,
This bulletin is sent to key contacts at provider organizations administering COVID-19 vaccine. Please share it with others in your organization who may benefit from the update. Note that all of our communications are archived on our [web site](#). This bulletin contains several important updates and reminders.

Order requests

Orders are due at noon on Tuesdays. Order requests should be based on Moderna and / or Pfizer doses needed and assume J&J doses will NOT be provided. We have very little J&J vaccine available currently, so these orders can still be requested, but are unlikely to be fulfilled. Please provide information how you intend to use any J&J doses requested.

Eligibility for March 19 start date for 45+

Please click [here](#) and scroll down to *Current eligibility phase resources* for the current phase eligibility poster as of March 19. A Spanish translation will also be available soon under the same section header. Please post this at clinics starting on that date to confirm eligibility of vaccine recipients.

Vaccine Safety Communication

Please hang the "[What to expect poster after COVID-19 vaccination](#)" poster at your clinics—we removed the patient specific section—to better serve mass vaccination clinic settings. Please encourage vaccine recipients to register for [V-safe](#) (now available in [multiple languages](#)). **V-safe** participants will receive text messages and web surveys in the language chosen when they sign up.

Resources You Can Use Now

- [What to do after a reaction](#)
- [Different COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People](#)
- [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Patient Safety Checklist for Vaccination Clinics](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Monitoring Systems for Pregnant People](#)
- [COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Blanket Waivers for Health Care Providers](#)

Ad-Council Vaccine Toolkits

We have created six communications toolkits to help community partners educate and provide answers to their members and stakeholders. These free, easy-to-use toolkits include messaging tips, videos, FAQs, social and digital media assets, educational events, and research that was rigorously vetted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. You can access the toolkits at the links below.

- [Public Health Toolkit](#)
- [Black Community Toolkit](#)
- [Hispanic Community Toolkit](#) (English and [Spanish](#)): Join our free “Hispanicize” ([Latinx virtual event](#)) featuring Dr. Fauci, Paola Ramos, John Leguizamo, Alejandra Espinosa, and Giselle Blondet on Friday.
- [Black Faith Toolkit](#)
- [Hispanic Faith Community Toolkit](#) (English and Spanish)
- [Corporation/Employer Toolkit](#)

Resources for ensuring physical security at COVID-19 vaccine Points of Distribution

As COVID-19 vaccine rollout continues across the country, threats to physical security could occur at any stage in the vaccine distribution process - at manufacturing sites; during transportation; at clinics, pharmacies, and healthcare facilities; and at Points of Distribution, or PODs.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has [just released two resources](#) to assist vaccine facility owners and operators and POD managers to prepare for these physical security threats:

- An infographic, [COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Physical Security Measures](#). This resource breaks down vaccine distribution into four stages and provides an at-a-glance overview of physical security threat vectors for each stage, with mitigation measures and links to more in-depth information for each threat vector.
- A [COVID-19 Vaccine Points of Distribution Physical Security Action Guide](#). This resource outlines pre-planning protective measures and mitigation options for threats to physical security at vaccination PODs specifically.

(Source: [CISA](#))

Important reminders

- **By Thursday of this week, please extend your schedules by one week only, from April 8 to April 15.** No first dose appointments should be scheduled beyond April 15. Preventing scheduling of currently eligible individuals further out avoids disruptive cancellations as individuals move up to more convenient appointments. Only schedule against baseline allocations. More information about posting schedules for later in April will come later in the month as we move towards general availability.
- **Immediately post schedules for any additional inventory you have for the upcoming week.** Doing so early in the week will allow for remaining 55+ individuals to find appointments before opening to 45+.
- **Between Friday at 12:01am and Friday at 8am, update scheduling portals to indicate expanded eligibility to individuals 45+.** Please double check that your technology and web teams are ready to make and implement these changes.
- Please maintain a wait list of eligible individuals in case vaccine becomes available that must be used within a narrow timeframe.
- Ensure that your clinic is protecting your vaccine against temperature excursions: Always store Moderna vaccines frozen (in the freezer) until the date of clinic.
- Report temperature excursions to the [Helpdesk](#) by submitting a ticket. Staff will be notified in real time of the excursion and will assist you. Please store vaccines in the storage unit in a paper bag marked "do not use" until a determination about the viability of the vaccine has been made, in consultation with the manufacturer and the Immunization Program.
- You should expect your second dose shipments of Moderna and Pfizer vaccines to arrive approximately 25 days after your first doses were received.

VAMS Support/Trainings

Under 'Latest News' review the [VAMS Enhancements](#) to help you utilize **NEW functionality**. Visit [VAMS Training \(ct.gov\)](#) or click on a link below to register or join a session.

- VAMS Live Helpdesk Office Hours for Clinics: **Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:30am-12:00pm**. Join: [VAMS Live Helpdesk Office Hours](#).
- VAMS Clinic Administrator and Inventory Manager Training with Q&A: **Wednesdays 12:00pm - 1:00pm** – 3/17, 3/24, 3/31 sessions. Register: [VAMS Clinic Administrator and Inventory Manager Training with Q&A](#).

- VAMS - Front Desk and Healthcare Professional Clinic Roles Training with Q&A: **Fridays 9:00am - 10:00am** – 3/19, 3/26 sessions. Register: [VAMS - Front Desk and Healthcare Professional Clinic Roles Training with Q&A](#).
- VAMS and CT WiZ Reports with Q & A: **Mondays 2:00pm – 3:30pm** 3/22, 3/29 sessions. Register: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/523056785471780107>.

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