



# Summary of COVID-19 Staffing Resources

As we continue with the historic mass vaccination campaign in the state of Connecticut, our public health partners will face the additional challenge of finding appropriate staffing resources to support COVID-19 clinics at a variety of locations. This document provides a summary of the available staffing resources and systems in place to meet the growing demands placed on the state's public health system.

## LICENSED HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS WHO CAN READILY VACCINATE (TIER 1):

Currently licensed physicians, physician assistants, registered nurses, advanced practitioner registered nurses, and licensed practicing nurses can administer intramuscular injections (i.e., give COVID-19 shots) to patients. Large community-based point of vaccination sites will likely need licensed medical staff to meet the high demands at such locations.

In collaboration with the CT Healthcare Coalition, a website portal was launched (<https://cthcc.org/>). The Department of Public Health (DPH) subsequently sent an alert to all such licensed practitioners on January 13, 2021 requesting that interested licensed healthcare practitioners go to the portal and enter contact information, license information and potential work hour availability into the website portal.

Hospitals, federally qualified health centers, pharmacies, and local public health departments (and other high throughput mass vaccinators providing community-based services, yet to be established) should reach out to CT's Healthcare Coalition to obtain access to the online registry of these licensed professionals. *Instructions are provided in the appendix.*

## LICENSED HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE COMMISSIONER'S ORDER TO ADMINISTER VACCINE AFTER SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING TRAINING (TIER 2):

Certain licensed healthcare professionals are eligible to become approved to administer COVID-19 vaccinations if they complete a training program approved by DPH. Practitioners include the following healthcare professionals:

- podiatrists, dentists, and dental hygienists (provided the dental hygienist has training to administer anesthesia),
- veterinarians, advanced emergency medical technicians, and emergency medical technicians: provided they have previously completed the DPH-approved intramuscular epinephrine administration training, and
- paramedics

Tier 2 healthcare professionals who successfully complete the online and hands-on training modules will receive a completion certificate through the training provider, and their names and information will be included in a DPH registry. These healthcare practitioners are then able to legally administer COVID-19, under the direction of a licensed Tier 1 healthcare provider. Mass vaccination sites can request a copy of the Tier 2 professional's completion certificate as evidence of such training and verify it through the online registry.

Hospitals, federally qualified health centers, local public health departments, and other healthcare practitioners looking for expansion of their workforce should consider having their staff complete this course as soon as possible.

Access to training and to trained Tier 2 healthcare professionals who may be available to assist with mass vaccination efforts can be found on the DPH website at: [Approved COVID 19 Vaccination Training Programs \(ct.gov\)](https://www.dph.ct.gov/vaccination-training-programs)

### UNPAID VOLUNTEERS WITH AND WITHOUT MEDICAL BACKGROUNDS (TIER 3):

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Much of the work associated with mass vaccination and the pandemic response that support successful operations rely upon non-medical personnel and the roles they fulfill. Volunteers have been utilized to process vaccine records and assist with scheduling, handle traffic control in large settings, assist with administrative functions, answer telephones, process and sign-in workers and other volunteers, or pick-up and drop off needed supplies. These functions do not require the skills of licensed healthcare practitioners but are equally as valuable.

There are multiple volunteer organizations in Connecticut that can assist in the mass vaccination effort. These staffing resources are organized under planning regions and coordinated through regional contacts. Please refer to the DEMHS regional map at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEMHS/Emergency-Management/Resources-For-Officials/Regional-Offices>

1. ***Volunteer Organizations Active During Disasters:*** Connecticut Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (CT VOAD) is a humanitarian association of independent voluntary organizations who may be active in all phases of disaster. Its mission is to foster efficient, streamlined service delivery to people affected by disasters, while eliminating unnecessary duplication of effort, through cooperation in the four phases of disaster: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. VOAD operates a volunteer recruitment platform called Disaster Agency Response Technology (DART) which includes a comprehensive volunteer management system that provides the capacity for entities to:
  - Register spontaneous/unaffiliated volunteers;
  - Organize and assign unaffiliated volunteers or groups of volunteers by location, skills, and availability; and
  - Communicate specific events and scheduled opportunities that unaffiliated volunteers can offer to support

If an organization needs volunteers, they can contact DART at [CTVOAD@NVOAD.org](mailto:CTVOAD@NVOAD.org). Once contacted the CT VOAD will walk the entity through the process to register in the DART system and make a request for volunteers.

2. ***Community Emergency Response Team:*** Many municipalities in Connecticut have robust Community Emergency Response Team's (CERT). These civil preparedness forces activate to assist their communities during disasters/emergencies. CERT Team Members can be utilized to support administrative roles and other activities for COVID-19 clinics and operations. To learn about your local CERT team or to inquire

about the feasibility of deploying CERT volunteers to your COVID-19 operation please contact your local Emergency Management Director or your DEMHS Regional Coordinator.

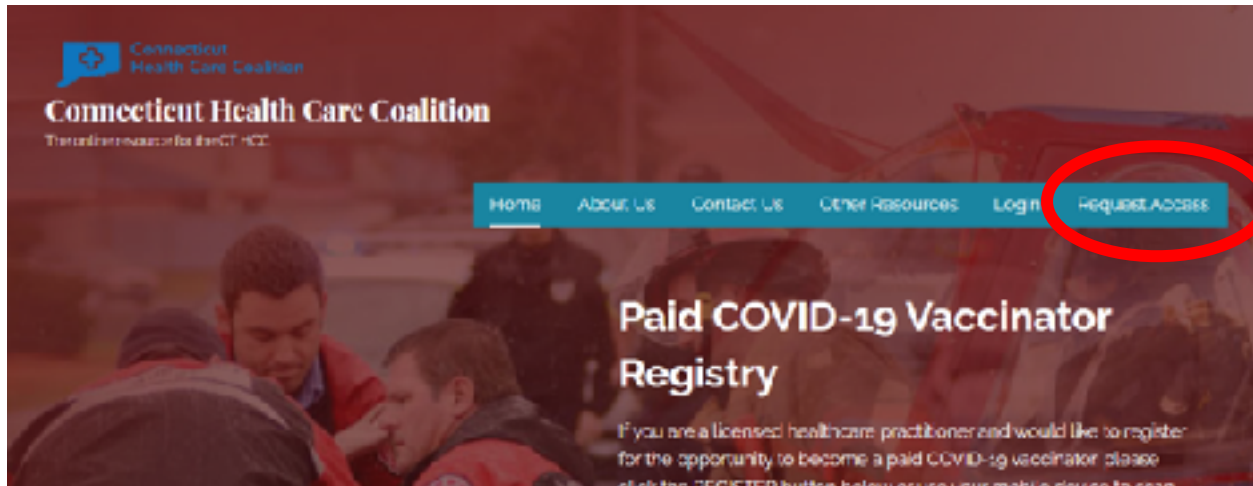
- DEMHS Region 1: Robert Kenny, [Robert.Kenny@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.Kenny@ct.gov)
- DEMHS Region 2: Jacob Manke, [Jakcob.Manke@ct.gov](mailto:Jakcob.Manke@ct.gov)
- DEMHS Region 3: William Turley, [William.Turley@ct.gov](mailto:William.Turley@ct.gov)
- DEMHS Region 4: Mike Caplet, [Mike.Caplet@ct.gov](mailto:Mike.Caplet@ct.gov)
- DEMHS Region 5: John Field, [John.Field@ct.gov](mailto:John.Field@ct.gov)

3. **Medical Reserve Corps:** There are 23 Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) chapters in CT. Members of the Medical Reserve Corps include medical and non-medical volunteers who are activated for public health or healthcare related missions in their communities. To learn about your local MRC or to inquire about the feasibility of deploying MRC volunteers to your COVID-19 operation please contact the regional MRC coordinators listed below. Prior to inquiring, a requestor should consider the purpose of the request, including location (address), duration, and the types of staff needed for fulfill the mission.

- Region 1: Kelley Meier, [kmeier@townofstratford.com](mailto:kmeier@townofstratford.com)
- Region 2: Daisy Hernandez, [dhernandez@esdhd.org](mailto:dhernandez@esdhd.org)
- Region 3: Katherine McCormack, [kmccor4040@aol.com](mailto:kmccor4040@aol.com)
- Region 4: Sara Darlagiannis, [sdarliannis18@gmail.com](mailto:sdarliannis18@gmail.com)
- Region 5: Jessica Kristy, [jkristy@nvhd.org](mailto:jkristy@nvhd.org)

## Appendix: Instructions to access the registry

1. Go to [www.cthcc.org](http://www.cthcc.org)
2. Click on “Request Access”. Please note you only have to do this your first time to the site. Subsequent times you can skip to Step #6.



3. Complete the requested information. In the last box, enter “Vaccinator Registry List”

**USERNAME** \*

**FIRST NAME**

**LAST NAME**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS**

**PASSWORD** \*

**CONFIRM PASSWORD** \*

**ORGANIZATION** \* ?

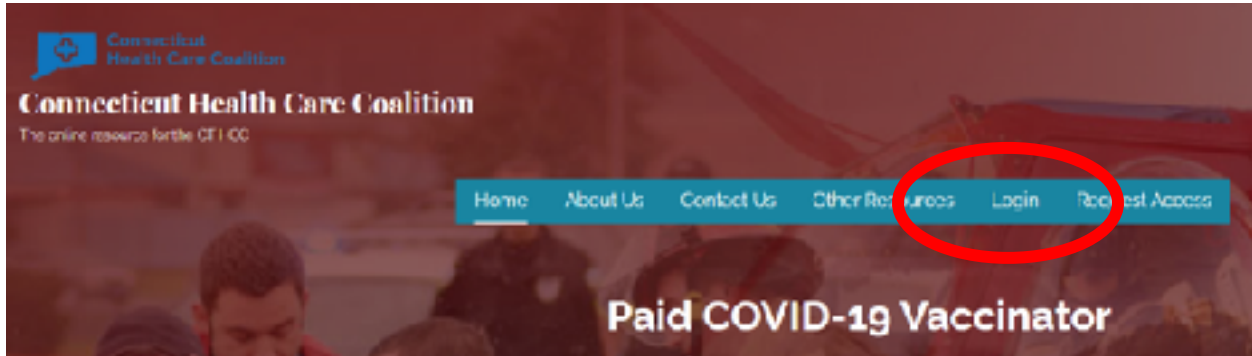
**PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU ARE REQUESTING HCC MEMBER ACCESS OR ACCESS TO OBTAIN THE VACCINATOR REGISTRY LIST.** \*

Register

4. Click Register. You will be approved within 24 hours of request.

5. After getting access, return to [www.cthcc.org](http://www.cthcc.org)

6. Click “Login” at the top of the page



7. Enter your credentials

8. Navigate to “Vaccinator Registry” at the top of the page. Then click “Download File”

