



# VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Phase 1c In Depth

While the supply is limited, COVID-19 vaccine will be provided to specific groups of people over a number of phases. Virginia guidance was adapted from [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) recommendations](#) that aim to (1) decrease COVID-19 deaths and serious disease, (2) preserve functioning of society, and (3) reduce the extra burden COVID-19 is having on people already facing disparities.

## **Virginia's Phase 1c: Vaccinate Other Essential Workers, People Aged 65 through 74 years, and People aged 16 through 64 years with a High Risk Medical Condition or Disability that Increases Their Risk of Severe Illness from COVID-19**

### **Other Essential Workers**

#### **Definition of Other Essential Workers**

In Phase **1b**, frontline essential workers were included. Vaccination will be allocated to additional essential workers in Phase 1c. These workers are in sectors essential to the functioning of society and/or are at higher risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2. Other Essential Workers include:

- Energy
- Water and Wastewater
- Housing Construction
- Food Service
- Transportation and Logistics
- Institutions of Higher Education Faculty/Staff
- Finance
- Information Technology & Communication
- Media
- Legal Services
- Public Safety (Engineers)
- Other Public Health Workers
- Officials needed to maintain continuity of government

Occupational definitions and further clarifications can be found within guidelines provided by [Guidance issued by Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency \(CISA\)](#).

#### **Other Essential Workers by Order of Vaccination Planning**

Because there is not sufficient supply at this time to vaccinate everyone in Phase 1c at the same time, local health districts will reach out to engage the Other Essential Worker groups in vaccination planning in the following order:

1. Energy
2. Water and Wastewater
3. Housing Construction
4. Food Service
5. Transportation and Logistics
6. Institutions of Higher Education Faculty/Staff
7. Finance
8. Information Technology & Communication
9. Media
10. Legal Services
11. Public Safety (Engineers)
12. Other Public Health Workers
13. Officials needed to maintain continuity of government



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Overlap of vaccination of groups is expected to ensure people in Phase 1c are vaccinated as quickly and efficiently as possible. Opportunities to vaccinate Other Essential Workers should not be missed.

## **How Other Essential Workers Can Access Vaccination**

Local health departments, pharmacies, healthcare systems, and employer-based occupational health units are working collaboratively to vaccinate other essential workers. Other essential workers may be most likely to receive the vaccine through employer-based vaccination clinics. Others will get it through their local health department or through arrangements with pharmacies and healthcare providers. Information will be coming out from local health departments, employers, and healthcare providers about how and when you can receive your COVID-19 vaccine. The ability to schedule appointments will depend on the supply of vaccine available.

## **People Ages 64 through 74 years**

This age group will be offered COVID-19 vaccine next, after those age 75 years and older, because they have been shown to have a high burden of COVID-19 hospitalization and death. The goal of vaccinating this population is to decrease the burden of disease and death caused by COVID-19.

### **How Persons Aged 64 through 74 years Can Access Vaccination**

Many of the people who are included in Phase 1c because of their age and/or their underlying medical conditions will be offered the vaccine through their healthcare provider. Others in this category will be able to access vaccination through their local health department or through arrangements with healthcare systems and pharmacies.

## **People Ages 16 through 64 years with Certain Conditions or Disabilities that Increases Their Risk of Severe Illness from COVID-19**

This group is included in Phase 1c because they are at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19, which can result in hospitalization and death. The goal of vaccinating this population is to decrease the burden of disease and death caused by COVID-19.

The list of medical conditions is updated routinely as new data become available at

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>

### **How Persons Aged 16 through 64 Years with a High Risk Medical Condition or Disability Can Access Vaccination**

Many of the people who are included in Phase 1b because of their age will be offered the vaccine through their healthcare provider. Others in this category will be able to access vaccination through their local health department or through arrangements with healthcare systems and pharmacies. Information will be coming out from local health departments and healthcare providers about how and when people in Phase 1c can receive their COVID-19 vaccine.