Delaware COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Framework

The Delaware Division of Public Health has adopted an ethical framework that guides decision-making for administration of the vaccines that during times of limited vaccine supply. Delaware’s COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Framework has maintained a consistent overarching goal.

**Overarching Goal:** To vaccinate as many people who choose to be vaccinated as possible in a time-sensitive manner as a critical mitigation strategy in the COVID-19 pandemic response.

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**Advisory Communities on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Allocation Framework of COVID-19 Vaccine**

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**Balancing Goals: Prevention of Morbidity & Mortality and Preservation of Societal Functioning**

**Operational Goals**

- Decrease death and serious disease as much as possible
- Preserve functioning of society
- Reduce the extra burden the disease is having on people already facing disparities
- Increase the chance for everyone to enjoy health and well-being

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Ethical Principles

• **Maximize benefits and minimize harms** — Respect and care for people using the best available data to promote public health and minimize death and severe illness.
• **Mitigate health inequities** — Reduce health disparities in the burden of COVID-19 disease and death, and make sure everyone has the opportunity to be as healthy as possible.
• **Promote justice** — Treat affected groups, populations, and communities fairly. Remove unfair, unjust, and avoidable barriers to COVID-19 vaccination.
• **Promote transparency** — Make a decision that is clear, understandable, and open for review. Allow and seek public participation in the creation and review of the decision processes.

Other Considerations

• National/statewide trends and data (at-risk groups)
• Operational considerations (staff levels, critical services/infrastructure, available supply, etc.)
• Logistics (vaccination staff/resources, storage, venue support requirements)
• Time sensitivity (ability to vaccinate large groups within the timeframe)

Initial Phases

Due to the limited supply during the initial stages of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign, Delaware choose to integrate the ACIP recommendations to allocate vaccines in a phased approach due to the following situation and assumptions:

• The COVID-19 vaccine allocation phased groups for Delaware were developed based on ethical decision-making only; logistics were not a consideration.
• The initial allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine to the State of Delaware will not be adequate to protect all the Phase 1 groups.
• The initial allocation of vaccine must be distributed and administered in a very short period due to storage and utilization requirements and urgency to reduce transmission during the pandemic.
• Operational decision-making is used to consider the physical ability to vaccinate within the Phase 1 sub-groups in order to efficiently utilize the anticipated vaccine supply with the resources available and within the limited timeframe.

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• The vaccine delivery timeline will drive the allocation of resources among the phases; overlap of phased groups is likely (see Figure 2).
• Flexibility is permitted to adjust phased groups based on current trends and public health needs.

Supply Increase Allowed for Shift in Focus – May 17, 2021

Because supply has increased, Delaware has changed its timeline and vaccine rollout plan to get the vaccine out to more persons.

Delaware’s Current Focus: Make sure that every person who wants a vaccine can get one in a way that is fast and fair.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Long-Term Care Residents and Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Employer Groups (Phase 1a, Healthcare, Frontline, and other Essential Workers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Sprint to Complete State of Delaware 65+ Waiting List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Teachers, School Staff, and Child Care Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 17th</td>
<td>People 16-64 with High/Moderate-Risk Conditions Eligible</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>– See High and Moderate Risks below</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family Caregivers of those with High-Risk Conditions Eligible</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50+ Eligible to Receive Vaccine at DE Pharmacies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23rd</td>
<td>50+ Waiting List Opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6th</td>
<td>All persons 16+ eligible for COVID-19 Vaccine</td>
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</tbody>
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High-risk underlying medical conditions for severe COVID-19

- Cancer
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Chronic lung diseases, including COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), asthma (moderate-to-severe), cystic fibrosis, and other chronic lung disease including interstitial lung disease and pulmonary hypertension
- Dementia or other neurological conditions
- Diabetes (type 1 or type 2)
- Down syndrome
- Heart conditions (such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathies or hypertension)
- HIV infection
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system)
- Intellectual or developmental disability
- Liver disease
- Overweight and obesity
- Pregnancy
- Severe and persistent mental/behavioral health condition
- Sickle cell disease or thalassemia
- Smoking, current or former
- Solid organ or blood stem cell transplant
- Stroke or cerebrovascular disease, which affects blood flow to the brain
- Substance use disorders
Figure 1: Delaware COVID-19 Vaccination Timeline

Delaware's Vaccine Allocation
Where Do You Fit In?

Persons 65 Years and Older
Phase 1A Health Care Personnel
Frontline Essential Workers
Including educators or school staff, child care worker, first responders, and others.

Other Essential Workers
Including food service, construction, transportation and logistics, energy, hair/nails/massage, and others.

Persons 16-64 with High Risk Underlying Medical Conditions
Medical providers may use clinical judgement to vaccinate patients with other conditions.

Long-term Care Staff and Residents

Persons with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities

50+ State Waiting List and Pharmacy Options are Now Open
Sign up for the State of Delaware's vaccination wait list to register for State Vaccination events (Dover International Speedway, DMV or Curative Events). Or, you may reach out to pharmacies for vaccines. It may still take a few weeks to make a vaccination appointments based on the size of this group.

Coming Soon...
All Delawareans 16+ eligible for COVID-19 vaccine

For updates visit de.gov/covidvaccine. DPH will share information on vaccine locations and how to make appointments as details are finalized.