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PRESS RELEASE

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COVID-19 Moderna Vaccine for Cedar County (Phase 1B)

On January 21, 2021 the Iowa Department of Public Health released updated information in their Phase 1b supplemental vaccine shortage order. The order includes the following tiers for phase 1b to be activated February 1, 2021:

Phase 1-B

- 1) Persons aged 65 years and over.
- 2) The following populations vulnerable to high risk of exposure or severity of illness:
 - a) Tier 1:
 1. First responders (e.g., firefighters, police officers, and child welfare social workers).
 2. PK-12 school staff, early childhood education, and childcare workers.
 - b) Tier 2:
 1. Individuals with disabilities living in home settings that are dependent on attendant care staff, and their attendant care staff, if not otherwise vaccinated under Phase 1-A.
 2. Frontline essential workers in the food, agricultural, distribution, and manufacturing sectors who work in or live in congregate settings that do not allow for social distancing such as workers in a meatpacking or manufacturing production line or migrant workers who live in bunkroom-style housing.
 - c) Tier 3:
 1. Staff of and individuals living in congregate settings not covered by sections “a” and “b”, including shelters, sober living homes, behavioral health treatment centers, and

detention centers. Individuals residing in college dormitories shall not be included as part of Phase 1-B.

2. Government officials, including staff, to ensure continuity of government, engaged in state business at the Iowa Capitol during the legislative session

d) Tier 4:

1. Inspectors responsible for health, life and safety, including those in hospital and long-term care settings, child, and food production safety.

e) Tier 5:

1. Correctional facility staff and individuals incarcerated, including state, county, and city operated facilities.

Phase 1b is expected to begin no later than February 1, 2021 across the state. Every county in Iowa will have varying timelines based upon their resources. Cedar County Public Health (CCPH) has clinics scheduled through the month of January to complete initial doses and begin second doses for phase 1a which will continue into February.

“Our goal is to push out the vaccine as quickly as we are receiving it. We have thousands of individuals in Cedar County who qualify for phase 1b; however, our first allocation we are expected to receive in February for phase 1b is only 100 doses. We continue to ask for your patience and grace as we move forward. We are receiving an extremely high volume of phone calls daily. We will make announcements to the community as soon as we are ready to schedule appointments.” Jamie Walker, Director for CCPH said. Communication regarding appointments will be distributed via local newspapers, CCPH Facebook page and the county website at <https://cedarcountry.iowa.gov/>.

Everyone (including those who are vaccinated) should continue taking protective measures to limit the spread of COVID-19:

- Stay home if you are sick
- Wash your hands often
- Social distance 6 feet from others
- Wear a mask correctly over both your nose and mouth



Follow us on [Facebook](#) or find the most up to date information on COVID-19 in Cedar County at <https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/>