

# Information on COVID-19 Vaccine for Individuals Ages 75 and Older

Governor Baker announced earlier this week that people 75 years or older will be eligible to receive a COVID vaccine starting February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. In response, the Berkshire County Vaccine Team has set up public clinics throughout the county to meet this need. These COVID vaccination clinics are for those who live or work in Massachusetts, and you must bring proof of age or other eligibility with you to the clinic. Those who cannot prove eligibility of residence or employment in Massachusetts will not be vaccinated.

Please note that there are currently more individuals eligible for vaccination in Massachusetts than there is vaccine. The Berkshire County Vaccine Team will continue to add appointments and new clinic dates as more vaccine becomes available. We ask for everyone's patience as we get to everyone in turn. Updates will periodically be put on the Berkshire County Vaccine

Information Line at 413-339-5575.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: In order to answer to the following most common questions, here is the information we have at this time:**

**Will there be vaccine clinics in Berkshire County?** Yes, Berkshire County has at least three sites that will be hosting public clinics, listed below, as well as several smaller sites, including vaccination at long-term care facilities. Registration is required to attend vaccination clinics.

- **Central Berkshire County:** 2/2, 2/4, 2/9 and 2/11: Berkshire Community College Field House in Pittsfield;
- **Northern Berkshire County:** 2/2, 2/4/, 2/6, 2/8 and 2/12: St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Center in North Adams; and
- **Southern Berkshire County:** 2/3, 2/6, 2/10 and 2/13 at W.E.B. DuBois Regional Middle School in Great Barrington.
- **Some pharmacies and primary care physicians** will also have vaccine available.

**How do I register for a clinic?** The links for new public clinics will be added sometime after noon on January 27, 2021. After that time here are two ways to register for the clinics **(NOTE: Use Google Chrome Browser and please do not upload your insurance card. You will need to bring your insurance card with you at the vaccine site).**

1. Clinic links are expected to be activated sometime after noon on Wednesday, 1/27/2021 on the registration portal at [www.maimmunizations.org](http://www.maimmunizations.org) where you can search and register for the clinics (it is suggested to search for them using the location names or dates).

2. Go to <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccination-locations-for-individuals-in-eligible-groups-and-phases> and click on one of the locations to get to the registration page. These locations will not be posted before noon on Wednesday 1/27/2021.

3. Direct links will be shared as made available.

**What if no Berkshire public clinics are shown when I do a search?** To search for a clinic, it is suggested to use the "Name of Location" (per the locations listed above) or "Date" criteria (based on the dates issued in the press release). We anticipate these links to be available sometime after noon on Wednesday 1/27/2021.

**What information is needed for registration?** You will be asked to provide your name, address, phone number, date of birth, demographic data, email and insurance information (if you have it, but insurance is not required to get the vaccine). There will be screening questions and you will also be asked to attest that you are eligible to receive the vaccine.

**What if I don't have an email address?** If you do not have an email address, it is suggested that you reach out to a loved one or close friend to ask to use their email address to ensure you can register and to be sure you are notified when it is time to register for your second dose.

**How do I register for a clinic if I don't have access to the internet or need assistance with registration?** If you are or know of a senior 75 or older without a computer that may need assistance, please contact them and encourage them to call the Council on Aging office in Williamstown, Adams, North Adams, Pittsfield, Lenox, Lee, Stockbridge, Great Barrington or Sheffield for assistance. Please do not call until after noon on January 27, 2021.

**Why am I having issues with the registration website?** The registration website is not compatible with Windows Explorer. It is suggested that you use another browser (like Google Chrome, Safari or Firefox).

**Who is eligible to receive the vaccine?** People who live and work in MA, including part time residents, are eligible to be vaccinated as long as they are 75 or older or are eligible in Phase I. You must bring proof of age or other eligibility with you to the clinic. Those who cannot prove eligibility or residence or employment in Massachusetts will not be vaccinated.

**Are any other Phase II groups eligible to get the vaccine?** No, only those 75 years old or older or who are otherwise eligible for Phase I are eligible at this time. Got to <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/when-can-i-get-the-covid-19-vaccine> for the most recent information on eligibility for the vaccine. This site is updated twice a week. There is currently no way to register for an appointment if you are not yet eligible for vaccination.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to do whatever we can to get our population vaccinated and informed. Remember to do your part by wearing a mask, socially distance and avoid gatherings so we can get through this together.

## **COA Phone numbers for COVID registration assistance**

Please see below for the Councils on Aging available to assist older adults (and others) without internet access register for COVID vaccine clinics.

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Phone #</b>
Williamstown	413-458-8250
Adams	413-743-8333
North Adams	413-662-3125
Sheffield	413-229-7037
Pittsfield	413-499-9346
Great Barrington	413-528-1881
Lee	413-243-5545
Dalton	413-684-2000
Lenox	(413) 637-4787