

COVID-19 Vaccination Phase 2: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Updated January 26, 2021

Who can receive a vaccination when Phase 2 begins on February 1? The state has prioritized residents age 75 and older as the next group to receive vaccinations.

Where can I get a vaccine?

BHS is a partner in the Berkshire Vaccine Collaborative, along with CHP, the Berkshire County Boards of Health Association and other public health entities in the county. The collaborative is organizing large county-wide vaccination clinics in Pittsfield, Great Barrington, and North Adams. **The physician practices at CHP and Berkshire Health Systems will not have vaccine.**

If I am eligible, how do I register for a vaccination appointment?

Beginning Wednesday, January 27, 2021, residents 75 years old or older can register online at www.mass.gov/COVIDVaccineMap. Please click on your desired location on the map to schedule an appointment. The clinics being hosted by the Berkshire Vaccine Collaborative will be held at the Berkshire Community College Field House in Pittsfield, St. Elizabeth's Parish Center in North Adams, and the W.E.B. Du Bois Regional Middle School in Great Barrington. Please note: At your appointment, you will be asked to provide proof of your eligibility to be vaccinated in Phase 2.

What if I need help or don't have internet access?

The Berkshire Vaccine Collaborative is working with the Councils on Aging in Berkshire County to help facilitate registration. Please call your local Council on Aging.

How long will it take to vaccinate all 75+ year olds in Berkshire County?

We estimate there are about 18,000 Berkshire County residents age 75 and older. Although the Berkshire Vaccine Collaborative is able to vaccinate several thousand people per day, the pace of the process is dependent on the supply of vaccine that is available each week from the state and federal government. We estimate it may take six to eight weeks to vaccinate all those 75 years and older in Berkshire County.

I'm not 75 years old or older, when will I be able to get a vaccine?

After residents age 75 and older are vaccinated, the next priority group currently identified by the state includes a) residents age 65 and older; and b) patients with two or more comorbidities. Given the uncertainty of vaccine supply, we cannot predict exactly when patients in these two categories will be able to sign-up to be immunized.

I don't live in MA, but I am a patient at a practice there. Where do I get my vaccine? The clinics offered by the Berkshire Vaccine Collaborative are for individuals who live or work in Berkshire County. If you live in New York, Connecticut, or Vermont, please follow your state's guidelines for registering and receiving the vaccine. If you have a second home in Berkshire County, you are eligible to receive the vaccine in the Berkshires.

Where can I find more information?

- MA Department of Public Health:<u>www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-</u>
 <u>frequently-asked-questions</u>
- Berkshire County Vaccine Public Information Line: 413-449-5575
- Berkshire Vaccine Collaborative is creating an online vaccine information hub, which will be live on January 29 at www.getvaccinatedberkshires.org