

Media Update



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Date: Friday, January 15, 2021

To: All Media

From: Peoria City/County Health Department
Diana Scott 309-679-6603

Tazewell County Health Department
Sara Sparkman 309-929-0264

Woodford County Health Department
Andrea Ingwersen 309-467-3064

For Immediate Release

Tri-county COVID-19 Vaccination Update

Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford Counties

Peoria City/County Health Department, Tazewell County Health Department and Woodford County Health Department are collaborating with OSF HealthCare, UnityPoint Health, and Heartland Health Services to provide the COVID-19 vaccine to our residents.

These healthcare systems have stepped up to vaccinate our 65+ population. Beginning January 18, these healthcare systems will begin reaching out to their patient base to schedule a vaccination appointment in the coming weeks. They will also be contacting and working with independent providers, and those without a primary care physician, to link them with scheduling a vaccination appointment in the coming weeks. Again, residents should refrain from contacting providers at this time; health systems will be reaching out directly to our 65+ population. Thank you to OSF, UnityPoint, and Heartland for joining us in this endeavor.

The tri-county health departments have also started offering vaccination appointments to Phase 1B frontline workers. This includes:

- First Responders – Fire, police, 911 workers, security personnel, school officers
- Education (Congregate Child Care, Pre-K through 12th grade) – Teachers, principals, students support, student aids, daycare workers
- Food and Agriculture – Processing, plants, veterinary health, livestock services, animal care
- Manufacturing – Industrial production of good for distribution to retail, wholesale or other manufactures
- Corrections Workers & Inmates – Prison/jail officers, juvenile facility staff, workers providing in-person support, inmates
- United States Postal Services Workers
- Public Transit Workers – Flight crew, bus drivers, train conductors, taxi drivers, para-transit drivers, in-person support, ride sharing services
- Grocery Store Workers – Baggers, cashiers, stockers, pick-up, customer service
- Shelters/Adult Day Care – Homeless shelters, women’s shelter, adult day/drop-in program, sheltered workshop, psycho-social rehab

If you are employed in one of these areas, please contact the health department of your choice to schedule your appointment. You will be required to return to the same location for the second dose within the 21/28-day requirement. If you are unsure if you are eligible, please contact the health department to determine your Priority group.

Peoria CCHD
vaccinerequest@peoriacounty.org

Tazewell CHD
309-650-1555

Woodford CHD
309-467-3064

Leave a detailed message with name & phone number

Please be patient as we begin to vaccinate this large population of residents. Vaccine doses are distributed as fast as our allotment allows. It will take multiple weeks to reach all of Phase 1B.

Other sectors and groups are planned to be vaccinated in the future. **Please be patient as your local health departments follow the guidance for priority groups provided by Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) & Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).** Everyone will be offered the vaccine.

To find local information on the Tri-county community response to COVID-19, visit;

www.pcchd.org/COVID19

<https://www.tazewellhealth.org/381/CORONAVIRUS-COVID-19>

<http://www.woodfordhealth.org/595/COVID-19---Coronavirus>