



PRESS RELEASE

January 7, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccine Update for Washington County and Frequently Asked Questions

Residents of Washington County are no different than many others in wondering when it will be their turn to receive the vaccine. And, many are experiencing frustration due to conflicting messages and disorganization, and rightly so. Mayor Milton Tate said, "The health and safety of our residents still remain our top priority as we come upon nearly a year of this pandemic. We will continue to do our best to get as much information out as possible as we work alongside our partners of Washington County and local health officials."

Rolling out at such a massive scale and this quickly, is sure to bring a bit of frustration on all levels. The City of Brenham and Washington County officials continue to track information daily. Texas continues to receive doses of the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines, and is distributing statewide to hospitals, pharmacies, local health departments. Washington County EMS is an approved provider to administer the vaccinations, but none have been received to date. Judge John Durrenberger states, "Thank you for your continued patience as we learn and develop this new process, especially with so many unknowns." He continued, "We are working diligently to make this a seamless process for the community."

Who's getting the vaccine now?

If you are a front-line healthcare worker or resident of a long-term care facility, you are eligible now to receive the vaccine since December 14. This group is considered Phase 1A.

If you are in Phase 1B, you are also eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine, depending on availability and the vaccine provider. Vaccine supply remains limited, but more vaccine will be delivered to providers each week. Phase 1B recipients include:

- People 65 years of age and older
- People 16 years of age and older with at least one chronic medical condition that puts them at increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19, such as but not limited to:
 - Cancer
 - Chronic kidney disease
 - COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
 - Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathies
 - Solid organ transplantation
 - Obesity and severe obesity (body mass index of 30 kg/m² or higher)

- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

If you are in Phase 1A or 1B, please visit the [Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Locations map](#) to see if and where you might be able to get a vaccine. Remember, your ability to get a vaccine today or this week will depend on vaccine availability.

Who's getting the vaccine next and when?

Spring 2021 is the best estimate of when vaccines will be available for the *general public*, but that is subject to change.

What do I need to do now?

- **Phase 1A:** If you are a healthcare worker, contact your employer. If you are a long-term care resident, contact your caretaker.
- **Phase 1B:** Please visit the [Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Locations map](#) to see vaccine providers near you.
 - Do not show up at a hospital or clinic looking for vaccine.
 - Instead, please check their website for information about vaccine availability. Call if the website does not answer your questions.

Remember, your ability to get a vaccine today or this week will depend on vaccine supply at hospitals, clinics. Texas receives more vaccine shipments each week. Please check this page frequently for updates.

If I am eligible, where can I go in Brenham?

Below are links to the following pharmacies that have received allotments in Brenham. No primary care physician (PCP) offices have received vaccinations as of today.

https://www.walgreens.com/topic/findcare/coronavirus.jsp?ban=dl_dDLB_03292020_covid19

<https://www.heb.com/pharmacy/services/immunizations.jsp>

<https://www.normanspharmacy.com/>

For more information, please visit the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) website at:

<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine.aspx>

Word Count: 611

Attachments: 0

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