



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wisconsin Department of Health Services Opens Phase 1B of COVID-19 Vaccination to Adults Aged 65 and Over

FOX CITIES, Wis., Jan. 19, 2021 – The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) [has announced](#) that adults aged 65 and over will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine beginning January 25.

The DHS states that Wisconsin currently does not have enough COVID-19 vaccine to vaccinate all eligible populations. There are approximately 700,000 Wisconsinites who are 65 and older and Wisconsin currently receives around 70,000 first-dose vaccines per week from the federal government.

Local health departments are working with health care systems to vaccinate Phase 1A individuals and finalize plans for community vaccination clinics to equitably distribute vaccines as safely and quickly as possible. Local health departments are not providing vaccine appointments to the public at this time.

During today's media briefing, DHS Deputy Secretary, Julie Willems Van Dijk, encouraged adults aged 65 and over to consider where they typically get their flu shot to help determine where they can get their COVID-19 vaccine. Willems Van Dijk also encouraged this population to visit their provider's website for instructions on scheduling an appointment as to not overwhelm health care phone systems.

The DHS has also announced updates to their [vaccine data website](#) in hopes of providing more clarity and transparency on the distribution process. Their Vaccine Distribution Summary includes allocated, ordered, in transit and administered categories. "Ordered" represents the cumulative total number of doses that have been ordered by COVID-19 vaccine providers in Wisconsin and shipped by the federal government from the state's total allocation. The "In transit" category reflects COVID-19 vaccine orders from the previous week that have been shipped by the federal government and are en route to vaccine locations in Wisconsin.

Local health departments and health care systems will release more information on where and how to get vaccinated based on vaccine availability and guidance from the DHS. Fox Cities residents are encouraged to follow local health departments online and via social media for the latest updates on COVID-19 vaccination.

Calumet County Public Health:

<https://www.calumetcounty.org/156/Public-Health>

<https://www.facebook.com/calumetcountypublichealth>

Appleton Health Department:

<https://www.appleton.org/residents/health>

<https://www.facebook.com/appletoncityhall>

Menasha Health Department:

<https://www.cityofmenasha-wi.gov/departments/health/index.php>

<https://www.facebook.com/menashahealthdepartment>

Outagamie County Public Health:

<https://www.outagamie.org/government/f-through-m/health-human-services/public-health>

<https://www.facebook.com/OCPublicHealth/>

Winnebago County Public Health:

<https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/health>

<https://www.facebook.com/WinnebagoHealth/>

The public can also [sign up for weekly updates](#) about COVID-19 vaccination from the DHS.

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