

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 15, 2021

## Merced County – COVID-19 Vaccination Update

MERCED COUNTY, CA – In order to successfully vaccinate all eligible individuals in Phase 1A, the Merced County Department of Public Health (Department) continues to advocate for additional doses of vaccine from the State. To date, the Department has received 6,025 doses of COVID-19 vaccination for Merced County.

The County continues to have a much higher demand than available supply. The supply of vaccines will continue to be limited to those in Phase 1A with expansion to individuals 65 and older, as announced by Governor Gavin Newsom this week.

“We want to ask and remind everyone to continue to be patient as we work towards securing additional vaccines for our community. The Department is actively coordinating with partners in the medical system to ensure distribution of the vaccine at higher levels to meet the community’s needs,” said Dr. Rebecca Nanyonjo-Kemp, Public Health Director.

As a means for providing more current vaccine information to the community, Merced County has launched a new feature on the County’s Statistical Dashboard, which may be viewed on our website at [www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirusstats](http://www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirusstats). The new feature provides details about the number of vaccines secured, administered, and available, and additional information. (You may need to clear your browser’s cache to view the new feature.) The vaccine information will be updated weekly.

As a reminder, it is still a **local and statewide mandate** to wear a cloth face covering inside of, or in line to enter any indoor public space, or when unable to maintain six feet of social distance outside. Merced County health officials strongly urge all residents to exercise the following safety measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19:

- ✓ Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- ✓ Practice social distancing
- ✓ Wash hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds
- ✓ Use hand sanitizer with 60 percent alcohol base, when handwashing is not possible
- ✓ Stay home and isolate, if you are feeling sick

For more information on COVID-19 and additional testing locations, visit the Department’s website at [www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus](http://www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus). Follow us on social media for more updates:

- Facebook: Merced County Department of Public Health
  - Join Facebook Live Sessions, every other Thursday at 5:30 p.m. The next session is scheduled for January 28, 2021.
- Instagram: @mercedcountypublichealth

# COVID-19 Vaccination Distribution: Phases 1

As of January 13, 2021

The supply of COVID-19 vaccine is limited, which means that the vaccine will be offered to different groups of people in different phases, starting with our healthcare workers. As more vaccines become available, it will be offered to everyone. Below is a list of groups that will be offered the vaccine in phases, according to their risk of exposure.

- Key:**
- Green circle indicates that the group has been offered the vaccine.
  - Yellow circle indicates that the group is waiting to be offered the vaccine.
  - Red circle indicates that the vaccine is not yet available at this time.

## Phase 1A

Tier 1:	Tier 2:	Tier 3:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Acute care, psychiatric and correctional facility hospitals</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, and similar settings for older or medically vulnerable individuals</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Residents in long-term care settings</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Paramedics, EMTs and others providing emergency medical services</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Dialysis centers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Intermediate care facilities for persons who need non-continuous nursing supervision and supportive care</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">●</span> Home health care and in-home supportive services</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Public Health field staff</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Primary care clinics, including federally qualified health centers, rural health centers, correctional facility clinics, and urgent care clinics</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Community health workers, including promotoras</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Specialty clinics (i.e. optometry, cardiology, neurology, outpatient, surgery, physical therapy, etc.)</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Laboratory workers</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Dental and other oral health clinics</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Pharmacy staff not working in settings at higher tiers</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">●</span> Veterinarians</li> </ul>

## Phase 1B

Tier 1:	Tier 2:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: orange;">●</span> <b>Persons 65 years and older</b></li> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> <b>Frontline Essential Workers</b> Sectors: education, childcare, emergency services, and food and agriculture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> <b>Frontline Essential Workers</b> Sectors: transportation and logistics; industrial, commercial; residential, and sheltering facilities and services; critical manufacturing</li> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> <b>Congregate settings with outbreak risk</b> Incarcerated Homeless</li> </ul>

## Phase 1C

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> <b>Persons 50-64 years old</b></li> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> <b>Persons 16-49 years old with high risk health conditions</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> <b>Other essential workers</b> Water and Wastewater Chemical and Hazardous Materials Finance Services IT and Communication Government Operations / Community-Based Essential Functions Defense Energy</li> </ul>
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● Other groups not included may be added to a comparable phase.

These proposed allocations are based on recommendations by the CDC and ACIP

For more information, visit [www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus](http://www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus)



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