



Public Health

Idaho North Central District



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HEADLINE: **Public Health Prepares for Vaccine Rollout to People Over the Age of 65**

LEWISTON, IDAHO – Per Governor Little’s vaccine prioritization Idaho is continuing to roll out the COVID-19 vaccine across the state to first responders, K-12 teachers and staff, and others in the first phase of vaccinations. The next priority group, people over the age of 65, will become eligible on February 1st.

Public Health – Idaho North Central District’s (PH-INCD) 5 counties (Latah, Nez Perce, Clearwater, Lewis, and Idaho) have an estimated 22,000 people that fall into this priority group. Currently, PH-INCD on average is receiving 1,375 total doses per week. Vaccine supply continues to be limited and as a result, appointments for the vaccine are limited and PH-INCD and area vaccine providers anticipate a significant surge in demand.

PH-INCD and area vaccine providers will begin scheduling appointments for the 65 years of age priority group beginning on February 1st. PH-INCD has a list of vaccine providers helping in this effort at idahopublichealth.com. To schedule an appointment with PH-INCD please visit www.idahoprepmo.com and search for a vaccine clinic near you. Please check back regularly as clinics will fill up fast. As more vaccine is allocated to our 5 counties, more appointments will become available.

Due to COVID-19 safety precautions and availability, vaccine appointments are **REQUIRED**. We will not be accepting any walk-in appointments. We ask everyone to make every effort to keep their scheduled vaccine appointment and if not able to do so, please contact PH-INCD to cancel.

Please know for your appointment:

1. You will need to wear a mask when entering the facility.
2. You must be asymptomatic at the time of your visit.
3. You may not bring anyone else with you for the vaccination.
4. You will not be billed for your vaccination.
5. This vaccination does require two doses and you will book your second vaccination at the time of your initial vaccination.
6. You must be prepared to stay in the vaccination area for at least 15 minutes after receipt of your vaccination.
7. Please do not schedule your vaccine if you tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 10 days.
Future vaccine dates will be available.

Current estimates are that by early summer 2021, enough vaccine will be available for everyone who is recommended to receive the vaccine. There will be no out-of-pocket costs to individuals for the vaccine; however, vaccine providers may bill insurance for administrative costs. The COVID-19 vaccine will require two doses, separated by three or four weeks depending on the manufacturer. Idahoans should receive both doses in order to have full protection from the virus. Individuals who receive the vaccine may experience mild side effects such as low-grade fever, sore arm and fatigue, which indicate that the vaccine is working.

Once again, we ask for patience from our great community as we do our best in this vaccination effort.

For more information about the novel coronavirus please visit
<https://idahopublichealth.com/district-2/novel-coronavirus>
or call our Public Health Hotline at 1-866-736-6632.