



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

**Texas Department of State
Health Services**

Vaccine Distribution Plan for Southwest Texas

As of December 17, 2020



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Phased Approach to Vaccination

(Approximate dates are subject to change)

Phase 0	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
OCT – DEC	DEC – FEB	FEB – JUN	JUN – OCT	OCT – ONWARD
Vaccinator recruitment & registration	<p>Limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine doses available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccines will be shipped to vaccinators of healthcare personnel (HCP) and LTCF residents. Occupational healthcare settings will be the primary administrators of vaccines. Some large chains enrolled directly by CDC to serve some targeted populations (long-term care facilities). Continue ongoing provider recruitment and registration to ensure access to vaccination. 	<p>Increased number of vaccine doses available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasis on ensuring access to vaccine for members of Phase 1 critical populations who were not yet vaccinated as well as for the additional populations; expand provider network. Texas will use specialized vaccine teams, as needed, to vaccinate identified critical groups lacking access to the vaccine (e.g., rural communities). 	<p>Sufficient supply of vaccine doses for entire population</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DSHS will focus on ensuring equitable vaccination access across the entire population. Monitor vaccine uptake and coverage; reassess strategy to increase uptake in populations or communities with low coverage. May consider extending the use of vaccine teams depending on the uptake and coverage received thus far, especially to ensure second doses are administered from the end of Phase 2. 	<p>Sufficient supply of vaccine with a decreased need due to most of the population being vaccinated already</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May include boosters or annual vaccines, if required. Vaccine availability open throughout private vaccinators. Population able to visit vaccinator of choice.

Priority populations selection process

- ACIP (CDCP affiliate) voted to approve initial priority order of populations to receive vaccine while limited supply.
- FDA issues EUA for Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.
- ACIP issued recommendations re: who is eligible to receive this vaccine (for whom it's not contraindicated). (And they will do the same for additional vaccines receiving FDA authorization.)
- Texas DSHS has adopted the CDCP recommendations for Phase 1a populations.
- Texas has established an Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel (EVAP) to make micro-level allocation recommendations based on the supply expected the following week.
- DSHS Commissioner will make a final determination of allocation based on the EVAP's recs, on a **WEEKLY** basis.

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/news/updates.shtm#Vaccine>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations-process.html>



Coordination with the CDC for shipment to selected sites – Week 1

The first shipments of COVID-19 vaccine have been delivered in Texas.

- Four sites received 19,500 doses of the Pfizer vaccine Monday morning.
- An additional 19 sites received 75,075 doses on Tuesday.

In all, Texas was allocated 224,250 doses of vaccine to be shipped to 110 providers across the state this week.

- The focus is on facilities that indicated they will vaccinate at least 975 front-line health care workers since that is the minimum order for the Pfizer vaccine.
- More vaccine will be available for more providers next week.



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Phase 1a Priority Populations

- Hospital staff working directly with patients who are positive or at high risk for COVID-19;
- LTCF staff working directly with residents;
- EMS providers who do 911 pre-hospital/transport;
- Home health and hospice care workers;
- LTCF residents;
- Outpatient clinic staff who see COVID-symptomatic patients;
- Direct care staff in freestanding EDs/UCs;
- Community pharmacy staff who may provide testing or vaccinations;
- Public health and emergency response staff directly involved in administration of COVID testing and vaccinations;
- Last responders who provide mortuary or death services to decedents with COVID-19;
- School nurses.



Other Critical Populations for Phase 1

- Workers performing duties critical to community infrastructure;
- Adults at high-risk for severe COVID;
- People at increased risk of acquiring or transmitting COVID-19;
- People with limited access to routine vaccination services.

