



"Striving Toward a Healthier Community."

NEWS
For Immediate Release

Contact: Kay Conley
330.451.1446
conleyk@starkhealth.org

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Stark County Health Department announces registration process and first location for those listed in Phase 1B wanting to receive the COVID-19 vaccine

(Jackson Twp., OH) – The Stark County Health Department is launching the registration process for individuals in Phase 1B who are wanting to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. The department will start scheduling those 80 years of age and older beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2021. Others 65 years of age and older and those with Congenital or Developmental Disorders will be placed on a waiting list until it is their time to receive the vaccine. Those wishing to schedule and register for the vaccine can call **(330) 353-9010**, where they will hear a recorded prompt to leave their information. A representative will give them a call back shortly to schedule their appointment or to register their information so that when their week comes they can be scheduled. Residents can also visit StarkHealth.org to learn more about this process. The clinic will be held at the Whipple-Dale Centre, the home of Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities, located at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton, Ohio 44708.

"We are pleased to announce our first major vaccination clinic to our community as we continue our fight against COVID-19," said Kirkland Norris, RS, MPH, Health Commissioner of the Stark County Health Department. "I ask for your patience as we start this process and offer a reminder to all in Stark County that as we begin, there will be a limited supply of vaccine to start."

Those registered should bring a state issued ID or driver's license and an insurance card. The following Ohioans will become eligible for COVID-19 vaccines during Phase 1B (this phase will also include an additional phased approach, with new eligible populations added weekly beginning the week of January 19):

PHASE 1B Timeline – Stark County Health Department

The tentative timeline to start vaccinating the Phase 1B population following the process outlined above is as follows:

- **Week of January 18:** Vaccine providers will begin receiving their first allotment of vaccines for those ages 80 and older.
- **Week of January 25:** Vaccinations begin for those ages 75 and up. Vaccinations will also be available to those with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset medical disorders.
- **Week of February 1:** Vaccinations begin for those ages 70 and up.
- **Week of February 8:** Vaccinations begin for those ages 65 and up.

PHASE 1B – Those Ohioans eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine are:

- Adults 65 and Older
- Ohioans With Congenital or Developmental Disorders (includes cerebral palsy; spina bifida; congenital heart disease; type 1 diabetes; inherited metabolic disorders; severe neurological disorders including epilepsy; severe genetic disorders including Down Syndrome, Fragile X, Prader Willi Syndrome, and Turner Syndrome; severe lung disease including cystic fibrosis and severe asthma; sickle cell anemia; and alpha and beta thalassemia)
- Adult K-12 School Employees (please note schools will register through a separate process through their school or district) of schools planning in-person or hybrid learning effective March 1, 2021

When a new age group begins, vaccinations may not be complete for the previous age group. It will take a number of weeks to distribute vaccine to all groups given the limited doses available. The department is still currently vaccinating those listed in Phase 1A which includes Stark County's frontline workers.

"We will continue to issue information and updates on the vaccination process on our website at StarkHealth.org, on our social media, and through press releases," said Norris. "We encourage the community to read our FAQs on the vaccines if they have any questions or reservations."

Does where I live in Stark County matter?

The health department will be issuing the COVID-19 vaccine to those in its jurisdiction. The department represents the following areas: Bethlehem Township, Canton Township, Jackson Township, Lake Township, Lawrence Township, Lexington Township, Marlboro Township, Nimishillen Township, Osnaburg Township, Paris Township, Perry Township, Pike Township, Plain Township, Sandy Township, Sugarcreek Township, Tuscarawas Township, Washington Township, Village of Beach City, Village of Brewster, Village of East Canton, Village of Hartville, Village of Hills and Dales, Village of Magnolia, Village of Meyers Lake, Village of Minerva, Village of Navarre, Villas of Waynesburg, Village of Wilmot, the City of Canal Fulton, the City of Louisville, and the City of North Canton. Those who live in the cities of Alliance, Canton, and Massillon should reach out to their local health department as their process may differ from that of the Stark County Health Department.

"We want our community to know that we are doing all that we can to ensure those who want the vaccine can get it," said Norris. "It will take some time to do this and that is why we ask you to be patient and continue to take the precautions of washing your hands, wearing a mask, limiting gatherings, and keeping a social distance when you can."

The Stark County Combined General Health District (Stark County Health Department) was founded in 1920 and is celebrating a century of health. The department is currently the ninth largest health district in the State of Ohio which serves the public health needs of over 250,000 people. The jurisdiction of the Stark County District is that of the 17 Townships, 12 Villages, and the cities of Louisville, North Canton, and Canal Fulton. The mission of the department is to assess, protect, promote, and improve the health of Stark County through leadership, quality service, and community partnerships.

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