

Wyoming Department of Health - Phase 1a and 1b COVID-19 Vaccination Priorities

December 30, 2020

This document contains the Wyoming Department of Health’s (WDH) current list of prioritized populations for Phase 1a and Phase 1b of the COVID-19 vaccine campaign. Phase 1 is when vaccines are in limited supply and are being allocated for administration to specific populations. To develop this list, the WDH used the latest guidance from the CDC and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)^{1 2}, as well as recommendations from the WDH Medical Ethics Committee, for Phase 1a and 1b priorities. This list will be updated to include Phase 1c as soon as possible; Phases 1a and 1b may also be updated over time due to ACIP recommendations and other state considerations.

Vaccines should be provided to individuals in these priority groups and, when possible, should closely follow the priority order as noted in the tables below, moving down the priority list once higher-level groups have needs met. However, due to vaccine logistics and the desire to vaccinate Phase 1a and 1b populations as quickly as possible, we advise planning for and beginning vaccination of multiple groups simultaneously.

Generally speaking, Phase 1a critical populations are:

- Persons who have regular potential for exposure to COVID-19 patients;
- Persons who have regular exposure to people who are potentially positive for COVID-19, or those who are exposed to infectious materials; and
- Residents and staff of long-term care facilities, assisted living facilities and residential care facilities for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Table 1: COVID-19 Vaccine Phase 1a Prioritization Schedule

Priority	Sub-group of Phase 1a Vaccine Distribution
1	Hospital staff — direct inpatient care staff and emergency department (ED) staff, including providers working temporarily at the hospital
2	EMS personnel /fire department, personnel who are EMTs
3	Long-term care facility (LTCF)/assisted living facility (ALF) healthcare providers (HCPs)
4	Public health nursing (PHN) staff and other HCPs administering vaccines to critical populations in Phase 1a
5	Tribal public health and HCPs — receiving vaccine through Indian Health Services
6	PHNs and HCPs who regularly conduct COVID sample collection
7	Inpatient/residential behavioral health facility HCPs
8	Urgent care clinics and other medical clinics
9	Law enforcement — patrol officers and correctional facility officers (city, county, state and federal); coroners and deputy coroners
10	Licensed/credentialed medical and dental direct care staff working in other locations who have regular exposure to potentially positive COVID-19 patients or infectious material
11	PHN offices and local health departments — nurses and staff
12	LTCF and ALF residents and other staff not already vaccinated; intermediate care facility staff and residents; Residential service settings for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities of 3 or more Developmental Disability waiver participants (Participants and direct support professionals)
13	Home health healthcare providers- including aging network in-home providers
14	School nurses
15	Wyoming Public Health Laboratory and other clinical lab staff conducting COVID-19 testing if not included above; Blood Bank employees

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6949e1.htm>

² <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/pdfs/mm695152e2-H.pdf>

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16	Pharmacy staff
17	Other healthcare facility staff - ancillary support staff who have regular exposure to potentially positive COVID-19 patients or infectious material, including supporting staff from out of state

Through the following Phase 1b designations, WDH aims to prevent mortality and morbidity and preserve societal functioning. Generally speaking, Phase 1b critical populations are:

- Persons 70 years of age or older and
- Frontline essential workers who must interact with the public and are unable to consistently physically distance from others.

Table 2: COVID-19 Vaccine Phase 1b Prioritization Schedule

Priority	Sub-group of Phase 1b Vaccine Distribution
1	Fire, police, 911, correctional staff, search and rescue, and other in-person emergency response personnel not included in Phase 1a (including ancillary support for air ambulance and hospitals and Department of Family Services caseworkers)
2	Funeral service practitioners and in-person employees necessary for funerals
3	People who are ≥ 70 years of age or older. If necessary, populations may be broken down to vaccinate those who are ≥ 80 first
4	National Guard and Air Guard members likely to be activated for response to the pandemic
5	In-person employees within congregate settings such as group homes, halfway houses, homeless shelters, child and youth serving facilities
6	Healthcare providers, behavioral health providers, and social workers unable to physically distance and unable to provide services through telehealth. Healthcare facility surveyor/compliance evaluator and ombudsmen.
7	K-12 Education (teachers and support staff)
8	Child care service providers
9	Public transit employees- community transportation buses
10	Grocery store employees, commercial meat processing employees, feedlot employees, other food supply chain facility employees, and food manufacturing companies with 25 or more employees
11	US Postal Service employees and delivery service companies (such as Fed Ex and UPS) likely to have more than 15 minutes of exposure to members of the public; Clinical laboratory specimen courier employees