

## COVID-19 Vaccine Talking Points for P-12 Schools & Child Care in Phase 1B.2

As of February 4, 2021

*Please refer to the flow chart from CDPHE on page 3 for more details on eligibility.*

### Update on Vaccine Roll-out, Eligibility & Access

- Last week, Gov. Polis announced that beginning February 8, people 65+, as well as staff at P-12 schools and child cares, will be eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine. At the same time, Colorado will continue to work through vaccinating individuals in previous phases (health care workers, first responders and people 70 and older).
  - Staff at schools and child cares includes: Child care workers in licensed child care programs; P-12 teachers (full-time and substitutes); and bus, food, counselors, administrative, safety and other support services offered inside the school.
  - Both public and private school staff can receive the vaccine in this prioritization.
- In Jeffco, because vaccine supply has been extremely limited, the health care system as a whole is still working through vaccinating people in previous phases, with a focus on people 70 and older. We still have a ways to go to getting this high-risk group protected.
  - To date, 41.6% (26,646) of Jeffco residents ages 70+ have received at least one dose of the vaccine. Only about 4% (2,589) have received both doses.
- On average, Jeffco has been allocated about 5,000 first-dose vaccines each week. After conversations with CDPHE, the state will be allocating an additional limited number of vaccines to our local health care system to be distributed next week. The purpose of this additional allocation is to help get more older adults 70+ vaccinated right away, so Jeffco can begin vaccinating these new groups — including P-12 schools and child cares — as soon as possible.
- What this means is, even though staff at P-12 schools and child cares will be *eligible* to get the vaccine on February 8, there will likely be a brief wait before you can actually get the vaccine.
- **We don't have all of the answers yet, and the state and county's vaccination plan is quickly evolving based on vaccine supply, but here's what we can tell you right now:**
  - You have been elevated as a priority group to receive the vaccine as soon as supply allows. Health care partners in Jeffco are working very hard to get you vaccinated as soon as possible.
  - Because keeping school and child care staff safe while getting kids back to in-person learning is so critical to our community's recovery, CDPHE has directed

the local health care system to give about 35% of their vaccine supply specifically to these groups.

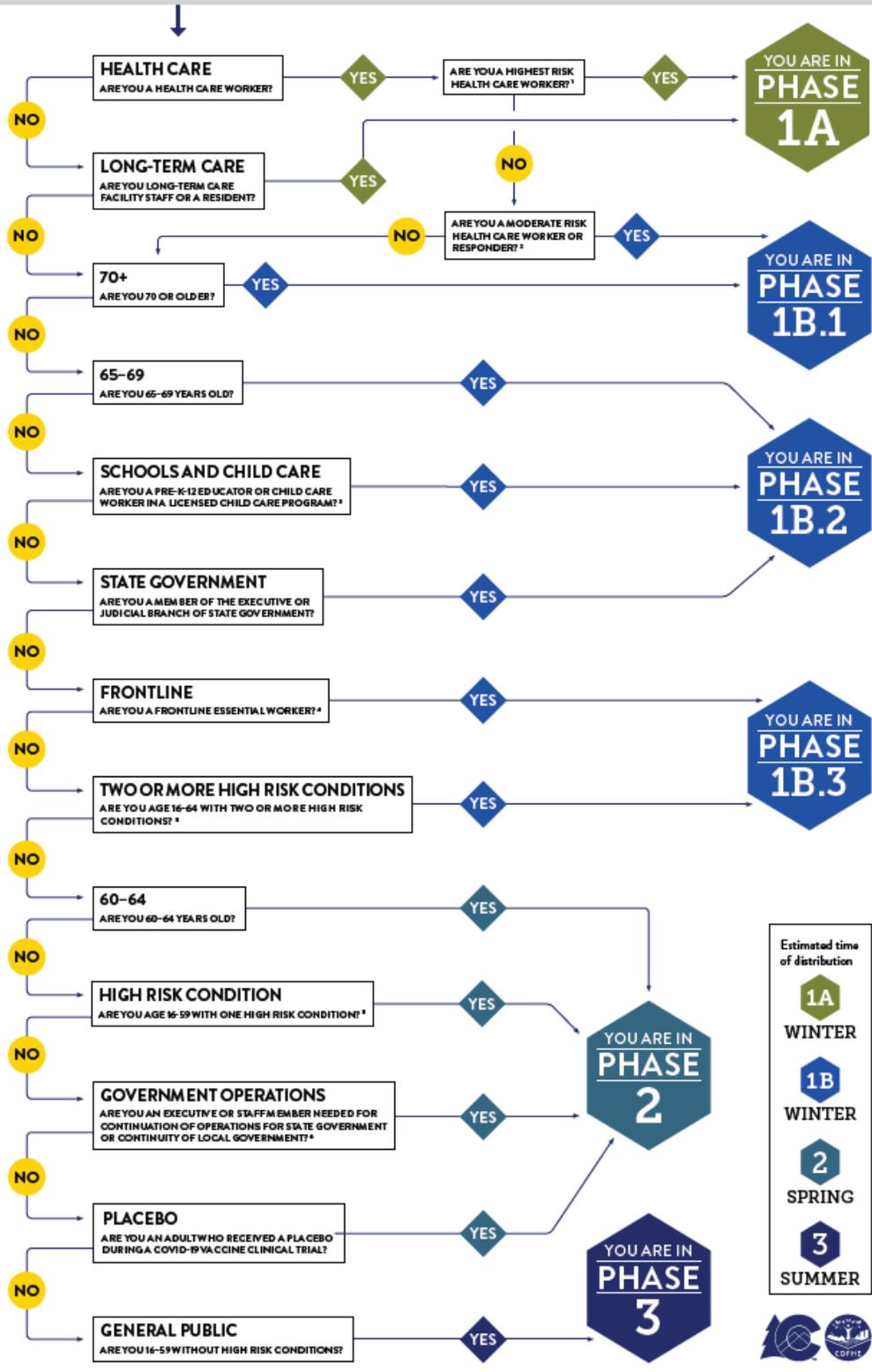
- For context, if the county continues to receive about 5,000 first-dose vaccines/week, and we know there are about 14,000 eligible staff in Jeffco Public Schools alone, it will take a little while to get the vaccine to all school staff that want it.
- Of course, if supply decreases, vaccinations will take longer; and if supply increases, these groups will receive the vaccine more quickly.
- Please watch for additional information regarding vaccine registration processes. These will be updated as eligible locations come online. School systems are coordinating with health care providers to determine the best way to get educators vaccinated.
- As a reminder, the COVID-19 vaccine is two doses, either 21 or 28 days apart depending on the vaccine you get. To be protected at the greatest levels, you'll need to get both doses and wait about 2 weeks for your immune system to fully respond.
- For many months to come, and even after you get the vaccine, your best protection from COVID-19 is a combination of getting a COVID-19 vaccine when you can, wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, avoiding crowds and washing your hands often. No one tool alone is going to stop the pandemic. We must still work together to do all we can do to protect ourselves and others during this period in which we work to get the vaccine to as many people as possible.

#### **How to Stay Informed or Get More Information**

- CDPHE has launched a vaccine call center. The number for this is 1-877-COVAX-CO. This number is in addition to JCPH's COVID-19 Call Line, 303-239-7000. For vaccine-specific information, please press 4.
- If you are a member of the general public looking for important public health emergency information, including updates about the COVID-19 vaccine, please sign up for "Jeffco COVID-19 Alerts" at <https://www.jeffco.us/list.aspx>. These alerts are also available in Spanish as "Alertas Jeffco COVID-19 – Español."
- For the latest updates on COVID-19 in Jefferson County, please visit [www.jeffco.us/coronavirus](http://www.jeffco.us/coronavirus). For vaccine-specific updates, please visit [www.jeffco.us/covid-vaccine](http://www.jeffco.us/covid-vaccine).

# VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

## WHEN CAN YOU EXPECT TO GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE?



1) HIGHEST RISK HEALTH CARE WORKERS: People who have direct contact with COVID-19 patients for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

2) MODERATE RISK HEALTH CARE WORKERS AND RESPONDERS: Health care workers with less direct contact with COVID-19 patients (e.g. home health, hospice, pharmacy, dental, etc.) and EMS, firefighters, police, COVID-19 response personnel, correctional workers, and funeral services.

3) SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE: Child care workers in licensed child care programs, P-12 teachers (full-time and substitute), bus, food, counseling, administrative, safety and other support services offered inside the school.

4) FRONTLINE ESSENTIAL WORKERS: In food and agriculture, manufacturing, U.S. postal service, public transit and special ad transportation staff, grocery, public health, frontline essential health service workers, fish harvesters, and direct care providers for Coloradans experiencing homelessness and essential frontline journalists.

5) HIGH RISK CONDITIONS: Cancer (defined as patients who are currently receiving treatment or have received treatment within the last month for cancer), chronic kidney disease, COPD, diabetes mellitus, Down syndrome, specific heart conditions (heart failure, cardiomyopathies or coronary heart disease, and severe valvular congenital heart disease), obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), pregnancy, sickle cell disease, solid organ transplant, and disabilities that prevent people from wearing masks.

6) CONTINUATION OF OPERATIONS FOR STATE GOVERNMENT AND CONTINUITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Local continuity of local government is defined as executives of those branches of government and a limited amount of essential support staff needed to provide for continuity of government. Continuation of operations for state government is defined as those individuals defined by continuity of operations plans that each agency holds to continue to provide services.