



# TRINITY COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 1/15/2021

Contact: Marcie Jo Cudziol RN, PHN, MPA

### Trinity County Coronavirus (COVID-19) Health Advisory

TRINITY COUNTY – Trinity County Public Health Branch (TCPHB) COVID-19 Mass Vaccination (Vax) Team is continuing the planning around our first drive-thru COVID-19 Vax Point of Distribution (POD) Sites located at Trinity Performing Arts Center (TPAC) in Weaverville January 29 and 30, 2021.

#### What We Know:

- Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is the only COVID-19 vaccine available at this time for our vaccination PODs and cannot be given to those under 18 years of age.
- We will vaccinate persons within the POD timeframes as long as we have vaccine
- Persons requesting vaccine will register online for a time slot ahead of the event
- Persons unable to access online registration will be assisted by our TCPHB Team
- The Governor's Office recently announced expansion of vaccine to all those 65 years of age and older; however, with extremely limited supplies of vaccine at this time it is the position of TCPHB to vaccinate those that are at greatest risk for severe illness and death -those 75 years of age and older and those 64 through 74 years of age that have the following health conditions that put them at increased risk:
  - Cancer
  - Chronic kidney disease



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- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Down Syndrome
- Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant
- Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or higher but < 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
- Severe Obesity (BMI ≥ 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
- Sickle cell disease
- Smoking
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>

## What You Can Do:

- Review the eligibility and pre-register online if you fall under the criteria listed below in Phase 1A (by occupation, age, age and medical condition)
- If you are unable to pre-register online and are included in Phase 1A below, contact TCPHB COVID-19 Vaccine line at 623-8235 leave your name and phone number and we will contact you to assist you with registration prior to the POD date.
- Please consider submitting vaccine questions via the Frequently Asked Questions link on our Trinity County webpage so that others can benefit from the answers  
<https://www.trinitycounty.org/COVID-19/Frequently-Asked-Questions>
- Do not utilize the COVID-19 Vaccine line for non-vaccination assistance:
  - For questions about COVID-19 testing please contact Trinity County OES at 623-1116
  - For questions about business openings and restrictions, as well as gatherings please contact Environmental Health at 623 - 1354



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The start and end time and pre-registration information will be coming out in the next week for the January 29, 2021 closed COVID-19 mass vaccination POD.

## **Eligible for Vaccination on January 29, 2021**

### Phase 1A (all Tiers):

- All health care providers and caregivers, including but not limited to:
  - Physicians and surgeons
  - Nurses, including nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, school nurses, licensed practical and vocational nurses, and nurse practitioners
  - Health care assistants and aides, including physician assistants, nursing assistants, orderlies, psychiatric aides, and other aides
  - Midwives and doulas
  - Occupational therapists, physical therapists, radiation therapists, recreational therapists, respiratory therapists, speech-language pathologists, exercise physiologists
  - Dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, and other dental specialties
  - Specialty providers, including audiologists, podiatrists, optometrists, dietitians and nutritionists, and phlebotomists
  - Holistic providers, including chiropractors, acupuncturists, massage therapists,
  - Mental and behavioral health providers, including psychologists, including substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors, educational, guidance, and career counselors and advisors, marriage and family therapists, mental health counselors, rehabilitation counselors, and other counselor
- Veterinary hospital providers and support staff
- All support staff in health care settings, including clinics



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- All social workers, including child, family, and school social workers, healthcare social workers, mental health and substance abuse social workers
- Community providers, including community health workers, social and human service assistants, health education specialists, and other community-based providers
- Law enforcement and Correctional Officers
- All health technologists and technicians, including medical and clinical laboratory technicians, pharmacy technicians
- Emergency medical technicians and paramedics
- Providers serving individuals with disabilities including developmental disabilities
- All home health care and in-home supportive services, including home health and personal care aides and assistants/attendants (including formal, informal and family members) for people needing health assistance at home including but not limited to the elderly and people with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Pastors, Reverends, Priests, etc. that minister to ill individuals in the home
- All COVID-19 response POD personnel and vaccinators
- Mortuary services providers, including workers performing mortuary, funeral, cremation burial, cemetery, and related services
- Patient interpreters
- Patient transport
- Public health and environmental health workers
- Workers supporting operations of outdoor recreational facilities for the purpose of facilitating physically distanced personal health and wellness through outdoor exercise

Persons in Trinity County moved into Phase 1A due to significant risk from COVID-19:

- Trinity County Residents 75 years of age and older
- Trinity County Residents age 64 through 74 years of age with chronic health conditions that put them at increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness



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## **Not Eligible for Vaccination at TCPHB Mass Vax POD**

For safety reasons we will not be vaccinating persons that have any of the following at our COVID-19 Mass Vax PODS:

- Have a history of allergic reaction to medication, vaccines, food, or any other substance that results in itching, hives, chest tightening, swollen tongue, difficulty breathing, or anxiety
- Have a bleeding disorder or are on blood thinners, this does not include persons taking daily baby aspirin
- Pregnant and breastfeeding women.

These persons should seek vaccine from their medical provider when it becomes available.

## **Vaccine to be Administered at TCPHB POD and What is Currently Known**

At this time the TCPHB will be administering Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, we will inform the public as this changes. Here is what we currently know about COVID-19 vaccination:

- With one dose of vaccine, after a week or two, you have some level of immunity but can still get Covid-19 if you're exposed to the coronavirus.
- The second dose of Moderna vaccine cannot be given sooner than 28 days from the first dose, but can be given any time after that.
- A few weeks after the second dose, studies have shown that the vaccine efficacy is approximately 95%.
- Even after getting both doses of the vaccine, since the efficacy is not 100%, you could still get Covid-19, but according to what the science tells us from clinical trials, you're probably going to have less severe disease than if you didn't get the vaccine.



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- The vaccine has not yet been shown to reduce transmission of the virus. There is just not enough information yet to know if people who are vaccinated could still be carriers of the virus, even if they don't get sick.
- We know so far through clinical trials that the vaccine does provide a lot of protection, essentially reducing the chance of getting the virus and getting severely ill from it.

## Public Health Guidance

It is important to continue to follow the public health guidance around prevention even after receiving the first dose of vaccine including all of the following:

- Proper social distancing of at least 6 feet
- Masking or Face shield at all times when out in public
- Increased ventilation – outdoor versus indoor and adequate air flow in buildings prevents spread when all other preventative measures above are implemented
- Frequent hand-washing and sanitizing high-touch surfaces
- Self-isolate if develop any symptoms consistent with COVID-19
- Self-quarantine if exposed
- Get tested
- Monitor for symptoms, self-isolate, and get tested:
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat



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- Congestion or runny nose
  - If exposed, get tested and self-quarantine.

For more information please visit our COVID-19 Vaccine link on [www.trinitycounty.org](http://www.trinitycounty.org) or call the COVID-19 Vaccine line with questions or concerns at 530-623-8235