

GREEN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Press Release

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Wisconsin COVID-19 Vaccine Update:

Sign Up to be Notified When Vaccine is Available

As we enter into 2021, COVID-19 vaccination efforts continue to be a priority in the State of Wisconsin and here in Green Lake County. As of December 29th, 47,157 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered throughout the state. At this time vaccination efforts are still being focused on Tier 1A personnel, which includes front line healthcare workers and residents of long term care facilities.

When the majority of Tier 1A individuals have been vaccinated, it is expected that vaccine efforts will continue on the Tier 1B. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has classified the following non-health care essential workers as frontline workers: first responders (e.g., firefighters and police officers), corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, U.S. Postal Service workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the education sector (teachers and support staff members) as well as child care workers.

The next Tier, 1C, is expected to include persons in the general public aged 65–74 years, persons aged 16–64 years with medical conditions that increase the risk for severe COVID-19. At this time, it is unknown exactly when vaccination efforts will begin for Tier 1C. When the time comes for the general public to begin receiving vaccine, the Green Lake County Health Department will communicate to the public on when and where they can receive a vaccine. We expect that vaccine will be available at many of the same places that influenza vaccine is available. This includes through the Health Department, at your doctor's office, and many local pharmacies.

Since we do not anticipate vaccine being available to the general public for a few months, the Green Lake County Health Department does not currently have a wait list for people in Tier 1C wishing to be vaccinated. However, individuals who wish to be notified when vaccine is available at locations such as Walmart, CVS, Walgreens, HyVee, and Costco can sign up at <https://www.endtherona.com>. This initiative was launched by healthcare technologists in Madison, Wisconsin. You can sign up to be notified about available supply at health facilities,

retail settings, and pharmacies in the area. There is no cost to use the service and personal data is safe. Once vaccine is available, a text message will be sent with instructions for how to book an appointment.

We understand that many people are anxiously awaiting the time when they can receive their COVID-19 vaccine. Until then, the most important things you can do to keep yourself safe continue to be:

- Staying home as much as possible
- Wearing your mask if you must go out for essential purposes
- Maintaining 6 feet social distance from members outside of your household
- And practicing good handwashing

It is important to remember that in order for the vaccine to do its job in the future, we need to reduce the spread of COVID-19 today. It will be months before the majority of the community is fully vaccinated so we must continue to be diligent with these practices to keep Green Lake County residents safe and healthy in the New Year!

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