



Somerset County Department of Health

COVID-19 Vaccination

What you Need to Know



Somerset County Department of Health is working in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control, the New Jersey Department of Health, and other federal, state and local partners in planning for the distribution of COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available.

Planning is ongoing, and may be amended based on the availability and delivery of vaccine to Somerset County.

What are the Priority Groups for COVID-19 Vaccination?

Once vaccine is available in Somerset County (Phase 1), defined critical populations will be among the first groups to be offered the COVID-19 vaccination. During Phase 1 it will be important to ensure that those most at risk of COVID-19 infection, those at risk of more severe illness or death, or those in underserved populations – including communities of color – who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic be among the first to be offered the vaccine.

In coordination with the New Jersey Department of Health priority groups, Somerset County will be initially addressing these priority groups:

Group 1A Community Health care providers

This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Hospitals
- Long term care
- Home care
- Urgent care, clinics
- Dialysis centers
- Dental offices
- Funeral homes
- Pharmacies
- Public health
- Group homes
- EMS

Group 1B Essential Employees

This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- First responders
- Food and agriculture
- Transportation
- Education/childcare
- Energy
- Water/sanitation
- Law enforcement
- Government

Group 1C High Risk General Population

This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Long term care residents
- 65 years and older
- Underlying medical conditions
- Immunocompromised
- Other congregate settings such as psychiatric facilities, seasonal migrant farm workers, etc.
- Incarcerated
- Homeless shelters
- Group homes

Other categories of high risk and general population

This includes, but is not limited to people from:

- communities that have disproportionately acquired and/or died from COVID-19
- tribal communities
- colleges/universities
- rural communities
- people with disabilities
- people who are under or uninsured

As vaccine supply increases to meet demand, these groups will expand to include the general public.

When can I be vaccinated?

Somerset County is planning for widespread community vaccination. The timeframe for priority groups and individuals to have access to COVID-19 vaccination is dependent on a number of factors, including:

- when the vaccine is distributed by the federal government
- the number of doses allocated by the state of New Jersey
- the date(s) of vaccine delivery to Somerset County
- the number of people in each category of priority groups who want to be vaccinated

Information on COVID-19 vaccination in Somerset County will be updated regularly, and posted on the Somerset County Department of Health website at www.co.somerset.nj.us/health.

Where can I be vaccinated?

Somerset County is working with community stakeholders and County Leadership for a “whole-of-government” approach, to ensure that the vaccine is delivered equitably and that no group is unjustly left behind. Accessible vaccination sites will be established in north, central and south areas of the county. Additional sites being considered include pharmacies, federally qualified health care centers, private healthcare providers and closed points of distribution (“PODs”).

How will I be able to register to be vaccinated?

Somerset County will use an online appointment system to schedule recipients and track vaccination information. This portal will allow members of the public to register for the vaccine, and then schedule an appointment. It will also assist providing the public with second-dose reminders, and give them a record to keep. When this online appointment system is launched and available, there will be a convenient link on the Somerset County Department of Health website at www.co.somerset.nj.us/health.

Where can I go for more information?

For the most updated information on COVID-19 vaccination, please visit:

Somerset County Department of Health

www.co.somerset.nj.us/health

New Jersey Department of Health

https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/covid2019_vaccination.shtml

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19>



Let's stay healthy together.