



# Douglas County Public Health

Douglas County Department of Health & Human Services  
1316 N. 14th St, Ste. 324 | Phone: 715-395-1304  
[www.douglascountywi.org](http://www.douglascountywi.org)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Kathy Ronchi, Douglas County Public Health Officer [kathy.ronchi@douglascountywi.org](mailto:kathy.ronchi@douglascountywi.org)

## **DHS Announces New Eligible Groups for COVID-19 Vaccine Tentatively Beginning March 1**

Today, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) announced groups eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations tentatively beginning March 1. To check if you are eligible, visit [DHS' vaccine eligibility webpage](#). Those in our community can get the vaccine by reaching out to local clinics, pharmacies, the hospital and the Health Department. We are working together to meet the needs of the residents of Douglas County, but we are all challenged by the limited availability of vaccine.

Decisions on which groups are eligible for vaccine are determined by DHS based on recommendations provided by the [State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee \(SDMAC\)](#). The SDMAC is Wisconsin's advisory committee and is made up of medical experts and practitioners. Due to the limited availability of vaccine doses, specific populations that are higher risk for exposure or more likely to develop severe symptoms are prioritized for vaccinations.

Once the federal government allocates more vaccine doses to Wisconsin, more Wisconsinites will have the opportunity to get vaccinated. In the meantime, the COVID-19 virus is still spreading in Douglas County. Even once you are fully vaccinated, it is important to continue to stay home when possible, wear a mask, wash your hands, and maintain physical distance from others.

As more vaccine is distributed to Douglas County, we will continue to work closely with vaccine providers, clinics, hospitals, and employers to ensure everyone in Douglas County will be able to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

Find the latest information on COVID-19 and vaccinations on the Douglas County website. For information, resources, and data related to Wisconsin's COVID-19 vaccination program, [visit the DHS COVID-19 vaccine page](#).

### **Check the Douglas County web page for updates.**

- COVID-19 Vaccine Information: <https://www.douglascountywi.org/1139/Information-for-Citizens>
  - COVID-19 Activity Level by Region and County: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/disease.htm>
  - Douglas County COVID-19 Dashboard: <https://www.douglascountywi.org/1124/COVID-19-Updates>
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