



# Press Release

Shelby County Health Department 1600 E SR 44, Suite B

Phone: 317/ 392-6470, Fax 317/ 392-6472

<https://www.co.shelby.in.us/health-department/>

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SHELBY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES**

### **Covid-19 Vaccine doses arrived in Shelby County**

SHELBYVILLE—Shelby County Department of Health announced today that our County via CVS Pharmacy has started to vaccinate individuals in Long Term Care Facilities. We are also excited to report that Indiana Department of Health has notified Shelby County Health Department that doses of Vaccine will be shipped for expansion of the vaccine administration plan. Shelby County Health Department is anticipating beginning clinics Tuesday January 12, 2021. If you believe you are part of this next phase, please visit:

<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/>

***We ask everyone to be courteous and patient.*** Our Health Department and other County Partners will provide vaccines as our State and Federal Partners have guided us. ALL COVID VACCINATION CLINICS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. NO EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE PER INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (IDOH).

Received the vaccine? Make sure you are on the [v-safe after vaccination health checker](https://vsafe.cdc.gov/?fbclid=IwAR24E2btfCxuv7quxZAQ_StvwxD7LB7zfvx927hK6cRj_H6luiB_0MZZkDg) at [https://vsafe.cdc.gov/?fbclid=IwAR24E2btfCxuv7quxZAQ\\_StvwxD7LB7zfvx927hK6cRj\\_H6luiB\\_0MZZkDg](https://vsafe.cdc.gov/?fbclid=IwAR24E2btfCxuv7quxZAQ_StvwxD7LB7zfvx927hK6cRj_H6luiB_0MZZkDg)

### **About the vaccine as provided by IDOH**

Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), and additional vaccines are being developed by other manufacturers. The EUA process has allowed for clinical trials and manufacturing to occur simultaneously, while still allowing for rigorous testing to determine how safe and effective it is.

1. *Safety is top priority.*

The first goal is to focus on the [safety](#) of the vaccine and determining how effective it is. Before any vaccine is released, it must first complete three phases of clinical trials to study its effect on thousands of diverse study participants. Once that study is done, the pharmaceutical company submits the results for [Emergency Use Authorization](#) (EUA) from the U.S. FDA. This is a way to make important health breakthroughs available to the public quickly.

The vaccine is then reviewed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#) (ACIP). ACIP is a federal advisory committee of medical and public health experts who develop recommendations on the use of vaccines in the U.S. public.

The next step before the vaccine is available is for the Indiana Department of Health's Vaccine

Allocation Plan Development Advisory Group to make final recommendations on the ethical and equitable allocation of a limited COVID-19 vaccine.

2. *There will be a limited vaccine supply at first.*

Vaccines by [Pfizer](#) and [Moderna](#) are now available. Some groups will be recommended to get a COVID-19 vaccine first. We have set up a phased-in approach to determine who is eligible for vaccine first based on the most effective way to reduce the impact of COVID-19. This first round of vaccine will go to long-term care center staff and healthcare personnel who in their line of may be exposed to COVID-19 patients or infectious material. The Pfizer vaccine will not initially be available for children under age 16 or younger than age 18 for Moderna. Early clinical trials of the vaccine show no adverse effects for pregnant women, but if you're pregnant, you should have a conversation with a healthcare provider to see if it's right for you.

3. *The vaccine will be free.*

Vaccine providers can bill a patient's insurance for a fee to administer the vaccine, but will not be able to charge the patient. Providers can seek reimbursement for uninsured patients from the Health Resources and Services Administration's Provider Relief Fund.

4. ***Prevent the spread of COVID-19 until vaccine is available to everyone.***

**The vaccine is in limited supply at first and won't be widely available until next year. Until there is enough vaccine for everyone, it's crucial for you to continue to take these steps that we can do now to prevent the spread of COVID-19:**

- ***Wear a mask to protect yourself and others***
- ***Stay at least 6 feet apart (about 2 arm lengths)***
- ***Practice good hand hygiene by washing with soap and water or using hand sanitizer***
- ***Isolate yourself if you're sick and stay home if you've been exposed to someone with COVID-19***
- ***Clean frequently touched surfaces often***

Please visit <https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/> to be able to click on the hyperlinks and more information.

To schedule a Covid-19 test please call your Physician, go to IDOH Coronavirus website or Shelby County Health Department Website for the link to Schedule a testing time and location.