



VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Phase 1c In Depth

While the supply is limited, COVID-19 vaccine will be provided to specific groups of people over a number of phases. Virginia guidance was adapted from [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) recommendations](#) that aim to (1) decrease COVID-19 deaths and serious disease, (2) preserve functioning of society, and (3) reduce the extra burden COVID-19 is having on people already facing disparities.

Virginia's Phase 1c: Vaccinate Other Essential Workers

Other Essential Workers

Definition of Other Essential Workers

In Phase 1b, frontline essential workers were included. Vaccination will be allocated to additional essential workers in Phase 1c. These workers are in sectors essential to the functioning of society and/or are at higher risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2. Other Essential Workers include:

- Energy
- Water, wastewater, and waste removal workers (includes recycling removal workers)
- Housing and Construction
- Food Service
- Transportation and Logistics
- Institutions of Higher Education Faculty/Staff
- Finance
- Information Technology & Communication
- Media
- Legal Services
- Public Safety (engineers)
- Other Public Health Workers

The [Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce: Ensuring Community and National Resilience in COVID-19 Response](#) is a framework that can be used to evaluate certain occupational groups to support prioritization decisions when the vaccine is in short supply. It is intended to be used together with CDC-ACIP and VDH recommendations. The definitions provided in the guidance document can be used to better understand certain types of workers.

Other Essential Workers by Order of Vaccination Planning

Because there is not sufficient supply at this time to vaccinate everyone in Phase 1c at the same time, local health districts will reach out to engage the Other Essential Worker groups in vaccination planning in the following order:

1. Energy
2. Water, wastewater, and waste removal workers (includes recycling removal workers)
3. Housing and Construction
4. Food Service
5. Transportation and Logistics
6. Institutions of Higher Education Faculty/Staff
7. Finance
8. Information Technology & Communication
9. Media
10. Legal Services
11. Public Safety (engineers)
12. Other Public Health Workers



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Overlap of vaccination of groups is expected to ensure people in Phase 1c are vaccinated as quickly and efficiently as possible. Opportunities to vaccinate Other Essential Workers should not be missed.

How Other Essential Workers Can Access Vaccination

Local health departments, pharmacies, healthcare systems, and employer-based occupational health units are working collaboratively to vaccinate other essential workers. Other essential workers may be most likely to receive the vaccine through employer-based vaccination clinics. Others will get it through their local health department or through arrangements with pharmacies and healthcare providers. Information will be coming out from local health departments, employers, and healthcare providers about how and when you can receive your COVID-19 vaccine. The ability to schedule appointments will depend on the supply of vaccine available.