



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 03/11/2021

Washburn County Vaccinating Healthcare Entities Provide Updates Regarding Eligibility

On February 24, 2021 Washburn County vaccinating healthcare entities, including Indianhead Medical Center, Spooner Health, and the Washburn County Health Department, [announced](#) their organizations would continue prioritization of individuals 65 and older for COVID-19 vaccination.

As of Thursday, March 11, 2021 66.5% of Washburn County residents 65 and older have received one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, a 20.1% increase since February 24. As we reach a critical mass of the 65 and older population being vaccinated, Indianhead Medical Center, Spooner Health, and the Washburn County Health Department are working closely to determine the best course of action for moving on to March 1 eligibility groups.

The Washburn County Health Department and Indianhead Medical Center will continue prioritizing the remaining 65 and older population. Spooner Health will be opening their public vaccination clinics to the March 1 eligibility groups starting on Monday, March 15, 2021. See below for details.

Indianhead Medical Center is continuing efforts to complete vaccination of patients 65 and older. Eligible patients will be contacted by their provider to schedule an appointment.

The Washburn County Health Department will continue to hold public vaccination clinics for the following eligible groups:

- **1A** – frontline healthcare workers – *DHS eligibility now includes all spiritual care providers (clergy) under this category*
- **1B** - police and fire personnel
- **1B** - adults 65 and older

Registration for WCHD clinics opens on Mondays at 8:30AM. Online registration is strongly encouraged and can be done at <https://www.washburncodisaster.org/>. Individuals unable to utilize online registration can call 715-635-4402 to schedule an appointment. If you are a Washburn County resident 65 or older having difficulty finding vaccination, please call us at 715-635-4402 and leave a message with your name and contact information. Leaving a message does not act as scheduling an appointment, but we will do our best to connect you with an appointment at one of our clinics or one of our partners' clinics. This is not a waitlist for WCHD clinics. Do not call to leave a message if you are not 65 or older.

Spooner Health will hold public vaccination clinics starting the week of March 15, 2021 for Washburn County residents in the following eligible groups:

- Adults 65 and older
- People enrolled in Medicaid long-term care programs, such as IRIS, Family Care, Children's Waiver, and Katie Beckett

- Utility and communications workers who cannot socially distance at work
- Drivers for public transit who have frequent contact with members of the public
- Food supply chain workers, including farm and agricultural workers, livestock veterinarians and breeders, food production workers, retail food workers, and hunger relief personnel

Registration for Spooner Health clinics opens on Mondays at 9:00 AM, **online only**, at <https://www.spoonerhealth.com/vaccine>. Do not call Spooner Health to schedule an appointment.

Staff in K-12 schools and higher education should contact their employer about vaccination plans and should not seek vaccination at Indianhead Medical Center or at Spooner Health or Washburn County Health Department clinics.

It is important to remember that vaccine supply is limited. It will take time to reach all people within each priority population. Current and future eligible groups in Wisconsin can be found at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-about.htm>. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue efforts to vaccinate Washburn County residents.

Information and resources related to COVID-19 in Washburn County can be found at <https://www.co.washburn.wi.us/news/public-health/Coronavirus-Outbreak>