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## **COVID-19 Vaccine Information:** **January 8, 2021**

The Town of Belmont is monitoring the availability of COVID-19 vaccines and preparing for the eventual vaccination of the general public. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is charged with determining the distribution plan for the vaccine in the state. The Town is updating plans for large-scale vaccination of residents to ensure that doses of the vaccine are given quickly and efficiently when they arrive in Belmont.

At this time, Massachusetts is currently in Phase 1 of its [vaccine distribution plan](#), and vaccines in Massachusetts are reserved for healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care as well as employees and residents of Long-Term Care facilities. Vaccine requests for these groups are being approved and overseen by the state.

Belmont is participating in a regional collaborative to administer vaccinations to first responders, the third priority group within Phase 1 of the Commonwealth's [vaccine distribution timeline](#). First responder vaccinations will begin on Tuesday, January 12th.

At this time, the Belmont Health Department does **not** currently have access to COVID-19 vaccine, other than the vaccine that has already been allocated to the Town's first responders. At this time, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has not determined that local health departments will be involved with additional vaccine administration prior to the general public in Phase 3 of the State's distribution plan, but that is subject to change.

Further vaccine information and updates can be found [here](#).

### **Anticipated Massachusetts Vaccine Distribution Timeline**

#### **Phase 1, December 2020 – February 2021**

- Clinical and non-clinical health care workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- Emergency medical services, police, and fire
- Congregate care settings
- Home-based health care workers



- Health care workers doing non-COVID-facing care
- Individuals who do not come into contact with patients

**Phase 2, February – April 2021**

- Individuals with 2+ [co-morbid conditions](#) and/or age 75+ (high risk for COVID-19 complications)
- Other workers including, but not limited to, early education and k-12 workers, transit, grocery, utility, food/agriculture workers, sanitation, public works, and public health workers
- Adults 65+
- Individuals with one [co-morbid condition](#)

**Phase 3, April 2021**

- The vaccine is expected to be available to the general public.

For up to date information about the Massachusetts COVID-19 vaccine plan, including when the vaccine is projected to be available for various groups, please visit: <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine-in-massachusetts>