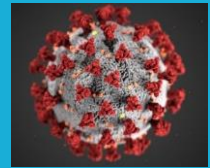


# ILLINOIS INTERIM COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN



## Executive Summary - DRAFT

October 26, 2020

### Introduction

The Illinois SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Planning Guide was designed to provide a clear and comprehensive plan for the management and response to vaccination operations within the state. The Guide provides direction for the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), state and local response partner agencies, and other stakeholders involved in COVID-19 mass vaccine efforts. Utilizing lessons learned from the 2009-10 H1N1 pandemic influenza response, the CDC's Pandemic Influenza Readiness Assessment for Illinois, and the 2019 Crimson Contagion Exercise Series, the COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Planning Work Group has identified a plan to ensure the safety of response personnel and citizens, prepare public health, health care, and other response partners to effectively manage all aspects of a statewide mass vaccination campaign, coordinate vaccine distribution to local providers, respond to requests or additional supplies, guidance, and information from external partners, and mitigate COVID-19 disease spread.

### COVID-19 Vaccination Planning Sections:

#### Section 3: Phased Approach to COVID-19 Vaccination

Illinois is planning for a phased approach to COVID-19 based on the CDC's COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdictional Operations. This will occur in three phases that are broken down into sub-phases. In Phase 1-A, Illinois will vaccinate paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials and are unable to work from home. After those working in health care settings are vaccinated, first responders (i.e. police and fire) will be vaccinated in Phase 1-A. In Phase 1-B, other essential workers and persons at higher risks of severe COVID-19 illness, including persons 65 years of age and older will be vaccinated. In Phase 2, critical populations, as defined by CDC and ACIP, will be vaccinated. In Phase 3, vaccines will be available to the general population.

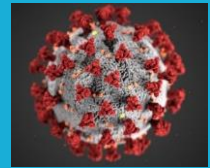
#### Section 4: Critical Populations

Critical populations recommended for COVID-19 vaccination are likely to change after vaccine is available, depending on characteristics of each vaccine, vaccine supply, and disease epidemiology. Initial populations prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination will include critical workforce members who provide health care, staff and residents in long-term care facilities, and critical workforce members who provide essential functions of society.

#### Section 5: COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Recruitment and Enrollment

Potential COVID-19 Vaccination Providers must enroll in the Illinois – Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange (I-CARE), the state's Immunization Information System (IIS), complete and submit a signed COVID-19 provider agreement, and complete required training. Illinois is enrolling local health departments, hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and other providers into the COVID-19 vaccine program. Outreach is occurring through webinars, SIREN announcements, and will be distributed through professional associations.

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## Section 8: COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling

COVID-19 vaccine products are temperature-sensitive and must be stored and handled correctly to ensure efficacy and maximize shelf life. Proper storage and handling practices are critical to minimize vaccine loss and limit risk of administering COVID-19 vaccine with reduced effectiveness. It is expected that cold chain storage and handling requirements for COVID-19 vaccine products will vary in temperature from refrigerated (2°C to 8°C) to frozen (-15 to -25°C) to ultra-cold (-60°C to -80°C in the freezer or within the dry ice shipping container in which product was received). Vaccine providers will be required to agree to follow CDC guidance on vaccine administration, storage, and handling by signing the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement. All providers must have plans in place to receive vaccine and ancillary supplies shipped directly to the designated sites. These plans must reflect and adhere to the CDC's requirements for storage and handling of the different types of vaccines.

## Section 10: COVID-19 Vaccination Second-Dose Reminders

There are three methods for patients to be reminded about their second dose in Illinois: vaccine cards provided by CDC and given at the time of vaccination, traditional provider reminders (calls, text messages, reminders through patient portals, etc.), and reminder recall functionality through I-CARE.

## Section 12: COVID-19 Vaccination Program Communication

All COVID-19 vaccine providers must be registered in the Illinois Health Alert Network (HAN/SIREN) to receive vaccine guidance and critical updates on the COVID-19 mass vaccination administration mission. SIREN is a secure web-based persistent messaging and alerting system that leverages email, phone, text, pagers and other messaging formats to provide 24/7/365 notification, alerting, and flow of critical information. The Illinois Department of Public Health holds regular webinars with local health departments and health care partners, and these will be utilized to share critical information. Illinois will work with professional associations to help reinforce messaging to providers. Illinois will utilize a culturally and linguistically appropriate messaging campaign to share information with the public.

## Section 14: COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Monitoring

Vaccine safety monitoring will be critical for COVID-19 vaccine. To better monitor vaccine safety, Illinois will use the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) and encourage healthcare professionals and others to use it as well. VAERS is a passive reporting system, meaning it relies on individuals to send in reports of their experiences to CDC and FDA. VAERS accepts and analyzes reports of adverse events (possible side effects) after a person has received a vaccination. Anyone can report an adverse event to VAERS. Healthcare professionals are required to report certain adverse events and vaccine manufacturers are required to report all adverse events that come to their attention.

## Section 15: COVID-19 Vaccination Program Monitoring

The Illinois Department of Public Health's Immunization Program will monitor vaccine orders, track any wasted vaccine, including the reason for wastage to quickly address any issues quickly, and will monitor distribution across the state to ensure vaccine is equitably distributed.