



Vaccs Facts is a weekly series of COVID-19 vaccine updates published by Austin Public Health.

Austin Remains in Phase 1A of Vaccine Distribution

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Operational Updates

- The [Moderna COVID-19 vaccine received an Emergency Use Authorization](#) from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Friday, Dec. 18.
- The [Pfizer vaccine received an Emergency Use Authorization](#) from the FDA on Friday, Dec. 11.
- The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) received 224,250 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine during [Week 1 allocation](#), with [13,650 doses slated for the Austin area](#).
- This week, [Texas DSHS expects to receive 620,400 doses of vaccine](#) distributed to more than 1,100 providers across the State of Texas. Of these doses, the Austin area is slated to receive 20,725 vaccine doses.
- In the Week 2 vaccine allocation, Austin Public Health (APH) is expecting to receive 1,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine, which will go toward those who will be vaccinating others, long-term care facilities that did not enroll in the federal program, and those who work at City of Austin operated COVID-19 testing sites.
- The Austin Public Safety Wellness Center is expecting to receive 1,300 doses of the Moderna vaccine for Austin and Travis County EMTs and Paramedics.
- Initial doses of vaccine in Phase 1A are being allocated for frontline healthcare workers and long-term care facility staff and residents, based on the [COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation Guiding Principles from Texas DSHS](#).
- Texas DSHS has also released information on the [Phase 1B Vaccine Priorities](#).
- There are nearly 300 pharmacies, doctors' offices, hospital groups, and other providers signed up to provide COVID-19 vaccines in Austin-Travis County.

- APH will not serve as the primary vaccine provider for Austin-Travis County residents, rather, APH will service as an informational hub and safety net for those without insurance.
- Individuals curious about where they can receive their vaccine should check with their primary care provider to see if they plan to be a vaccine provider. Each provider will likely have their own sign-up system, though they have all been trained on providing the vaccine and the allocation order by Texas DSHS.

Safety & Precautions

- Even with limited vaccines available in our community, people need to continue to take additional COVID-19 prevention measures including: wearing a mask, social distancing, washing your hands often, covering coughs and sneezes, cleaning frequently touched surfaces, and staying home if you're sick.
- It is not yet clear from the vaccine trials whether individuals who receive the vaccine can still transmit COVID-19 to others. It is therefore very important that even those vaccinated take the same precautions as before to ensure that they do not inadvertently spread the virus as a carrier.
- The FDA released fact sheets on the [Pfizer vaccine](#) and [Moderna vaccine](#) for recipients and caregivers that includes information on vaccine ingredients and side effects.
- While the COVID-19 vaccine may cause side effects such as fatigue, headache, fever, chills, nausea, muscle pain, and joint pain, these side effects show that the vaccine is working.
- The FDA and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will continue to monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines to make sure even very rare side effects are identified. [V-SAFE is a new smartphone-based, after-vaccination health checker](#) for people who receive COVID-19 vaccines.

For additional COVID-19 vaccine information, visit www.AustinTexas.gov/COVID19-Vaccines.