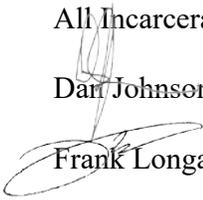




STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

February 2, 2021

TO: All Incarcerated Individuals

FROM: Dan Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Health Services

Frank Longano, Deputy Chief Medical Officer

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Vaccine – Phase 1B1

On December 28, 2020, the Department of Corrections began providing vaccine doses to staff and incarcerated individuals who met the requirements for phase 1A prioritization, based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and the Washington State Department of Health (DOH).

Vaccine delivery is based on the overall availability of vaccines in the state and the phase that people meet the requirements for.

As of January 24th, the state moved to Phase 1B Tier 1 which includes people 65 years and older. The Department has since begun providing vaccine doses to eligible staff and starting February 1st, began vaccinating members of the incarcerated population that are over the age of 65. The ability to provide vaccine doses is based on the supply available to the state. The Department expects this vaccination phase to take several weeks, based on the current limited availability of vaccine doses.

For a full description of each tier, please view [Washington's COVID-19 Vaccine Phases](#), which will be posted in your units. The Department of Health has specified that following Phase 1B Tier 1, the state will move into Phase 1B Tier 2. By phase 1B Tier 4 Corrections expects to begin offering vaccine to all staff and incarcerated individuals who did not qualify under previous tiers. This process will likely occur over a number of weeks based on vaccine supply.

At this point Corrections is only using vaccine produced by a company called Moderna. Guidance for the Moderna vaccine includes providing two doses. While the recommendation is that doses be given four weeks apart, this time interval can be extended to six (6) weeks according to the Centers for Disease Control based on vaccine availability.

As this is a rapidly changing situation, we will continue to keep you updated in the coming weeks and months regarding the Department's plan for COVID vaccination based on [Washington DOH guidance](#).

For questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, please see the updated COVID-19 frequently asked questions, posted in your units.

"Working Together for SAFER Communities"