



Eric J. Holcomb  
*Governor*

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*State Health Commissioner*

Jan. 4, 2020

A message from the Indiana Department of Health to first responders:

**If you are a first responder** (fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services, volunteers, reserve officers) **you are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.** This includes anyone employed by a first responder agency in a public-facing position that requires in-person contact, increasing the risk for potential exposure to COVID-19. Please make an appointment here: <https://scheduling.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine> using Firefox or Chrome on your computer or mobile device. The website will direct you to the right vaccination site for you.

This registration link is for eligible healthcare workers and first responders only at this time due to limited vaccine supply. **Please do not forward this message or the registration link except to share it with other public-facing first responders.** Please be aware that this is the only notification about vaccine registration first responders will receive at this time.

You may have already received the registration link from your employer if you work for a hospital or EMS provider. To make an appointment, select the facility where you work or click on "my employer is not listed." The eligibility language on the registration link may still list healthcare personnel only, but by receiving this letter, you are eligible and may register.

A guide is attached that explains how to register. The scheduling tool will not allow you to cancel or change your appointment, so please make sure that the date and time you select fits your schedule. If you have a last-minute emergency and need to cancel or reschedule your appointment, you must submit a ticket through our online helpdesk portal at <https://eportal.isdh.in.gov/C19VAXPublic/>.

Please tell the vaccine provider if you are currently ill or have ever had a severe allergic reaction. The vaccine takes two doses to work, so after you receive your first dose, please make your appointment right away to receive your second dose. You will receive a link to make a second appointment after you receive your first vaccine, and a few reminders as well, or you may schedule using the link listed above.

To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers.



The registration link will take you to our appointment scheduling portal, where you will then receive a link to register. It is important to complete all registration information prior to your appointment. The vaccine is free to all recipients, so there will be no charge to you. Health insurance is not required, but if you have health insurance, please provide correct insurance information. Your insurance carrier may be charged an administration fee.

Here are some facts you should know:

- The vaccine has received Emergency Use Authorization from the FDA after completing three phases of testing
- The Centers for Disease and Prevention's (CDC's) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has reviewed the vaccine and recommends its use
- The Indiana Department of Health's external advisory committee of experts has reviewed the clinical trial data and also approves its administration
- The vaccine is available at no cost
- It is a two-part vaccine, so you must get a second dose 21 to 28 days after receiving the first dose, depending on the manufacturer
- Please continue to follow all transmission-based protocols even after being fully vaccinated (received both doses)

Based on clinical trials on thousands of people:

- The vaccine is 94% to 95% effective at preventing COVID-19
- Few side effects were reported, but included pain at the injection site and sometimes headache, fatigue, muscle aches or low-grade fever
- Vaccine will reach full effectiveness seven days after the second dose

We encourage you to get vaccinated to protect yourself, your family and your community.

More information is available at [coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine](https://coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine).

Yours in health,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsay Weaver".

Lindsay Weaver, MD, FACEP  
Chief Medical Officer  
Indiana Department of Health