



Vilas County Public Health Department

330 Court Street

Eagle River, WI 54521

715-479-3656 • 866-845-2726 • Fax: 715-479-3741

www.health.vilascountywi.gov

For Immediate Release: January 14, 2021

Contact: Vilas County Public Health Department: 715-479-3656

Vaccine Availability for Vilas County Tier 1a Personnel Not Affiliated with a Healthcare System

Vilas County is helping to provide COVID-19 vaccine to organizations that have frontline healthcare personnel that are not affiliated with a healthcare system, hospital, or long-term care facility.

Following tiers defined by a state advisory group, individuals who provide direct patient service or engage in healthcare services that place them into contact with patients who may have COVID-19 are defined as [Tier 1a](#), and are currently eligible for vaccine.

Because Tier 1a is limited to direct patient care that is public facing, anyone with the ability to telework is not considered Tier 1a. Many clinics and organizations would like to get back to working in person, however because some people (hospital workers, emergency workers, etc.) do not have the ability to work from home, they are being prioritized. Some of the healthcare personnel categories in Tier 1a include:

- Certified nursing assistant, nursing assistant, nurse aide, medical assistant, nurses
- Chiropractors
- Dental services, including dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistants
- Direct care personnel, for example, people who provide direct care to patients, including in their homes (for example, personal care assistant, home health worker)
- Emergency medical responders (EMR), including emergency medical technician/paramedic including all levels of EMRs
- Environmental services, food & nutrition, buildings & grounds in patient care setting
- Hospice workers
- Long-term care facilities staff
- Pharmacist/pharmacist assistant
- Physicians, physician assistant/nurse practitioners
- Transportation services to and from health care settings, for example, testing sites, dialysis centers, ambulatory care

This is not an exhaustive list. For a full description of who is in Tier 1a, see the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee guidance at:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02858.pdf>.

Public Health asks that Vilas County organizations and residents who provide direct health care that meet the Tier 1a definition and are not yet matched with a vaccinator, call Vilas County Public Health Department at 715-479-3656, or call one of the three Healthcare systems listed below.

“We look forward to making this vaccine available to help fight the COVID spread in our community. It is important to help provide this important vaccine to some of the frontline workers who play crucial roles in keeping our community healthy,” said Laurel Dreger, Health Officer.

Public Health will follow-up with organizations to collect names and contact information of individuals eligible for vaccine. As vaccine becomes available, individuals will be matched with appointments. If you provide direct health care and are interested in the vaccine, please contact us for further information and availability.

The following healthcare systems are also providing COVID-19 vaccine to non affiliated health care workers:

Ascension

Any EMS (Emergency Medical Service) desiring to obtain COVID Vaccination from Ascension vaccination sites need to provide the following initial information in order for Ascension to plan for the number of vaccines needed and start providing direct outreach to your services:

- Department Contact Person Name
- Department Contact Person Phone Number
- Department Contact Person Email
- Approximate Staff Needing Vaccination (EMS Licensed)

This information should be sent to Matt Thompson at matt.thompson@ascension.org or to micahel.clark@ascension.org

Aspirus Occupational Health

Community health care workers in Phase 1A can receive their COVID-19 vaccine through Aspirus Occupational Health in Wausau. Appointments can be made starting by calling [715-847-2812](tel:715-847-2812). The vaccine will be administered at Wausau Family Medicine. Vaccinations are available by appointment only. Walk-ins are not accepted. Questions about the vaccination plan for your healthcare employees, can call Aspirus Business Health at [715-847-0405](tel:715-847-0405).

Marshfield Clinic

Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS) is currently vaccinating community health care workers in Phase 1a. Please take the following steps to request a COVID-19 vaccine:

- Visit the Marshfield Clinic Health System [Community COVID-19 Vaccination](https://www.marshfieldclinic.org/community-vaccination) website: ([marshfieldclinic.org/community-vaccination](https://www.marshfieldclinic.org/community-vaccination)) and complete the self-registration vaccine survey.

- The following information will be needed: name of organization you work for, job position(s), contact information and date of birth.
- You will then be contacted to schedule an appointment.

The dispensing of the COVID-19 vaccine will take some time. The public is asked to be patient and to continue strong everyday precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These preventive measures include:

- Don't gather with people outside your own household and if you must, wear a mask, stay at least six feet apart.
- Wear a mask when in public, even in outdoor locations.
- Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds, scrubbing thoroughly and rinsing completely.
- Stay home if you have symptoms and get tested.

As more information about vaccine availability for other tiers becomes available, Public Health will provide this information. There are no wait lists being formed for vaccines in future tiers. People are encouraged to stay up to date by visiting the public health Facebook or local newspapers and radio.

###