

ALLEGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Allegan County COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts – Continuing to Vaccinate Individuals aged 65 and older

(Allegan, MI)— As the state announced the opening vaccine eligibility to individuals aged 50 and older with medical conditions and caregivers of children with special health care needs, the Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) is continuing to work through scheduling individuals who are 65 and older. As of March 1, 37.1% of individuals 65 years and older have been vaccinated in Allegan County.

“We anticipate increased vaccine allocations in the coming weeks, despite that we still expect another 3 weeks before we can begin scheduling vaccine appointments of this new eligibility group,” states Allegan County Health Officer, Angelique Joynes. “We still have about 4,000 individuals 65 and older in our registry waiting for vaccine appointments. We thank everyone for their patience and encourage individuals eligible to sign up for vaccine at all the places that are offering it, including pharmacies, health systems, and our local health department.”

Of the vaccine doses ACHD receives from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), 75% of ACHD’s weekly vaccine supply is given to individuals 65 years and older and 25% of ACHD’s weekly supply is given to individuals in the other eligible groups.

“We are happy with the state’s decision to open vaccine eligibility for individuals aged 50 and older, but the reality is majority of our individuals age 65 and above had not had the opportunity to get vaccinated yet. We want to work through the rest of this group who has been patiently waiting for vaccine since January 11 before we schedule appointments for those aged 50 and older,” states Joynes.

All individuals living or working in Allegan County and interested in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine should sign up through the “[I Want the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)” form on www.allegancounty.org/covid or call 2-1-1. Once ACHD has vaccine available for the individuals, they will receive notification from ACHD on scheduling an appointment.

Other Clinics

If you are eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine and still in need of an appointment, check out:

- [Meijer Pharmacy](#)
- [Rite Aid Pharmacy](#)
- [Spectrum Health Zeeland](#)
- [West Michigan Vaccine Clinic](#)

-MORE-

We encourage eligible people to register at all the places that offer vaccine to them. If you get an appointment at one of these other clinics, please email covidvaccine@allegancounty.org so we can take your name off our registry.

A vaccine appointment means that a dose of the vaccine, a time-slot in the schedule, and the staffing to deliver that vaccine are all saved for you. Making vaccine appointments for multiple sites does direct harm to others by delaying their access to the vaccine. We ask that you consider the health of your community when making a vaccination appointment. The fewer resources lost through double booking, the faster everyone in the community can have access to the vaccine.

Individuals in need of assistance can call 2-1-1 or the ACHD COVID-19 Hotline at 269-686-4546 to provide their information. ACHD is following [prioritization set by the State of Michigan](#). For more information, visit www.vaccinatewestmi.com or www.michigan.gov/covidvaccine.

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