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Whiteside County Health Department
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Cory Law, ERC (815) 626-2230

Whiteside County COVID-19 Vaccine Quick Guide

February 11, 2021 – Whiteside County is currently providing COVID-19 vaccines to members of [Phase 1A](#) which includes medical personnel and volunteers, and individuals who live and work in Long Term Care and other Congregate Care settings as well as specific members of [Phase 1B](#) including individuals 65+. [Phase 1B](#) is a large group. According to Census data, Whiteside County has over 11 thousand individuals who are 65+ alone, and this does not include the frontline essential workers in [Phase 1B](#). As vaccine remains limited, vaccination of this group is expected to take months.

Below you will find information on how specific individuals may access vaccine. To help ensure you are vaccinated as quickly as possible, individuals should sign up wherever eligible.

Individuals Aged 65 and Older

Individuals 65 years of age and older are considered part of [Phase 1B](#) and have multiple options including the Whiteside County Health Department, health systems they are a patient of, and local pharmacies. Eligibility, how to register, and how to schedule appointments is listed below.

Whiteside County Health Department (WCHD)

- **Who is eligible:**
 - Whiteside County residents 65 and older.
- **How to Register for WCHD's Waitlist**
 - **Online:** Whiteside County residents can register online by completing the [Whiteside County COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Individuals](#) survey. Individuals should receive a copy of their response as a confirmation.
 - **Phone:** individuals without email can call the health department at 815-626-2230 and select option 8 for assistance to be added to the waiting list.
- **How to schedule an appointment**
 - Once registered for the waitlist, WCHD will contact you when vaccine and an appointment available. WCHD is currently scheduling individuals by registration date. If unable to contact you, WCHD will call back again when another appointment is available

CGH Medical Center

- **Who is eligible:**
 - CGH Medical Center patients 65 years of age and older
- **How to Register for CGH Medical Center's Waitlist**
 - **Online:** CGH Medical Center Patients can register online at <https://www.cghmc.com/forms/covid-19-vaccine-cgh-patient-wait-list-form/>

1300 W. 2nd Street - Rock Falls, Illinois 61071 - Phone: 815-626-2230 - whitesidehealth.org

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- **Phone:** Calling the CGH Vaccine Waitlist Hotline (815-632-5298) Monday through Friday from 8am-5pm.
- **How to schedule an appointment**
 - Once registered for the waitlist, CGH Medical Center will contact you when they have vaccine and an appointment available. CGH Medical Center is scheduling the oldest individuals on their waitlist first and working their way down by age.

Morrison Community Hospital

- **Who is eligible:**
 - Morrison Community Hospital's patients 65 years of age and older
- **How to Register for Morrison Community Hospital's Waitlist**
 - **Phone:** Morrison Community Hospital patients who have not been contacted directly can register by calling 815-772-5537.
- **How to schedule an appointment**
 - Once registered for the waitlist, Morrison Community Hospital will contact you when they have vaccine and an appointment available. Morrison Community Hospital is scheduling individuals based on medical risk.

Whiteside County Pharmacies

- At this time, most Whiteside County pharmacies do not have COVID-19 vaccine available to the public.
- For more information Illinois pharmacies currently offering vaccine visit:
<https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/vaccination-location>

Phase 1B Frontline Essential Workers and Phase 1A

Whiteside County continues to vaccinate members of [Phase 1A](#) and has begun vaccination of frontline essential workers included as part of [Phase 1B](#). Frontline Essential Workers who carry a higher risk of COVID-19 exposure because of their work duties, often because they are unable to work from home, and/or they must work closely with others without being able to socially distance are part of [Phase 1B](#). More information on how to register and individuals will schedule appointments is listed below.

Whiteside County Health Department (WCHD)

- **Who is eligible:**
 - Eligible members of [Phase 1A](#) or [Phase 1B](#) who live or work in Whiteside County.
- **How to Register for WCHD's Waitlist**
 - **Individuals who Work in Whiteside County:** Whiteside County Health Department is coordinating with eligible employers in Whiteside County to reach employees for vaccination. If you work in Whiteside County please make sure your employer has completed the [Whiteside County COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Businesses](#) survey. WCHD will then work with your employer to get individuals scheduled.



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- **Individuals that live in Whiteside County but Work in another:** Eligible [Phase 1A](#) and [Phase 1B](#) individuals who live in Whiteside County but work in another county can call the health department at 815-626-2230 and select option 8
- **How to schedule an appointment**
 - The Whiteside County Health Department will work with your employer to notify you and your eligible coworkers who are interested on how to schedule an appointment when vaccine and appointments are available for your industry.
 - The Whiteside County Health Department will contact individuals who live in Whiteside County but work in other counties directly to schedule appointments when vaccine and appointments are available for your industry.

Whiteside County Pharmacies

- At this time, most Whiteside County pharmacies do not have COVID-19 vaccine available to the public.
- For more information Illinois pharmacies currently offering vaccine visit:
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Individuals Under 65 with Disabilities or High Risk Health Conditions

Individuals 16 to 64 years of age with disabilities or who are at high risk for complications related to COVID-19, in Illinois, will be included in [Phase 1B](#) later this month. Currently, we are waiting to review IDPH's plan but this group is expected to have access to vaccines sometime after February 25th, 2021 and should follow guidance for individuals age 65 and older. Individuals should continue to monitor local media outlets for updates as well as the Whiteside County Health Department website and social media

Other Essential Workers

Other essential workers who are not included in [Phase 1A](#) or [Phase 1B](#) will be vaccinated during of Phase 1c. The start date of Phase 1c is currently unknown but expected to be several months from now. However, this may change as new vaccines are approved, vaccine supply increases and more providers begin offering COVID-19 vaccine. When Phase 1c begins, individuals will likely be able to obtain vaccine through the Whiteside County Health Department, local pharmacies, and healthcare providers as detailed above. More information will be available as Whiteside County draws closer to Phase 1c and individuals should continue to monitor local media outlets for updates as well as the Whiteside County Health Department website and social media.