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

## **How to Access COVID-19 Vaccine in Whiteside County**

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)**

The Whiteside County Health Department is vaccinating Whiteside County residents aged 65 and older who have been added to the waitlist. Individuals can be added to WCHD's waitlist by completing [Whiteside County COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Individuals](#) survey. Individuals will receive a copy of their responses if they have been registered online. Alternatively, individuals may register for the waitlist by calling 815-626-2230 and selecting option 8 for assistance. WCHD will contact individuals on their waitlist directly when vaccine and appointments are available.

#### **CGH Medical Center**

CGH Medical Center is currently vaccinating their patients 65 years of age and older starting with their oldest patients and working to younger individuals on their waitlist. Patients can be added to CGH Medical Center's waitlist by registering online through the [COVID-19 Vaccine CGH Patient Wait List Form](#) or calling the CGH Vaccine Waitlist Hotline (815-632-5298) Monday through Friday from 8am-5pm. Once on the waitlist, CGH Medical Center will call to schedule an appointment when vaccine and an appointment are available.

#### **Morrison Community Hospital**

Morrison Community Hospital is currently vaccinating their patients 65 years of age and older starting with those assessed as the highest medical risks. Morrison Community Hospital patients not contacted directly by the hospital can register for the waitlist by calling 815-772-5537. Morrison Community Hospital will call individuals when vaccine and appointments are available.

1300 W. 2nd Street - Rock Falls, Illinois 61071 - Phone: 815-626-2230 - [whitesidehealth.org](http://whitesidehealth.org)

Facebook: @WhitesideCHC - Twitter: @Whiteside\_CHC



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### **Whiteside County Pharmacies**

At this time, most Whiteside County pharmacies do not have COVID-19 vaccine available to the public. However, the Whiteside County Health Department and State of Illinois are working to supply these local pharmacies with vaccine to increase access.

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)**

Whiteside County Health Department is currently vaccinating eligible members of [Phase 1A](#) or [Phase 1B](#) who live or work in Whiteside County.

- **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 when vaccine and appointments are available for your industry.
- **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. The Whiteside County Health Department will then work with you to schedule an appointment when vaccines and appointments are available for your industry.

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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.