



Yakima Health District

Media Release

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Clarification on Tier 1 of Phase 1B COVID-19 Vaccinations

YAKIMA, WA- Earlier this morning, the Yakima Health District became aware of a public announcement stating that all K-12 educators and their families were eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine under Tier 1 of Phase 1B. The Yakima Health District would like to clarify that only individuals who are 65 years of age or older and those who are 50 years of age or older who live in a multigenerational home are eligible for vaccination in Tier 1 of Phase 1B.

According to current vaccination guidance, K-12 educators who are 50 years of age or older will become eligible for vaccination during Tier 2 of Phase 1B. Tier 2 of Phase 1B is estimated to begin sometime in the spring. This will depend on how quickly those that are in Tier 1 of Phase 1B are vaccinated. The state has stated that there will be some flexibility for combining workers in Phase 1B Tier 2 through Tier 4 to allow for easier administration of the vaccine and help increase vaccine output. For example, if a school district schedules a vaccination clinic for their staff in Tier 2 through Tier 4, all eligible workers would be eligible to receive the vaccine at the same time rather than having to wait until the subsequent phases.

Only those who meet the employment, and age and household requirements for Phase 1A or Phase 1B tier 1 are eligible to receive the vaccine at this moment in time. K-12 educators who meet these requirements are be eligible to receive the vaccine. Individuals in Phase 1A, including healthcare workers, first responders, and residents and staff from long-term care facilities, remain eligible for vaccination as well. Anyone who is not part of Phase 1A or Phase 1B Tier 1 is not currently eligible to receive the vaccine.

Individuals who are eligible to receive the vaccine in Phase 1A or Tier 1 of Phase 1B are encouraged to sign up for an appointment by visiting the [Yakima Health District's COVID-19 Vaccine webpage](#).

Additional Resources

[Yakima County COVID-19 Vaccine webpage](#)

[WA State Summary Guidance for Phases 1A and 1B](#)

[WA State Timeline for COVID-19 Vaccine Phases](#)

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