



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Early Learning Division



January 25, 2020

Dear Provider,

Governor Kate Brown has prioritized educators, including early learning and child care providers, to receive the COVID-19 vaccine as part of the “1b” phase, which begins today, January 25, 2021. Because the state has a limited amount of vaccine doses, all providers in Oregon may not be able to receive a vaccine at the beginning of this effort and should be flexible and follow guidance in their county.

Who is eligible?

Early learning educators, providers, and staff are eligible to receive the vaccine at this time. Those individuals include the following:

- All individuals in Emergency Child Care (ECC) facilities, including young adults (ages 16 to 18 years old)
- License-exempt caregivers providing the Oregon Department of Human Services subsidized child care in their own home or in the child’s home
- Licensed and recorded non-ECC facilities (home-based or center-based)
- Individuals in the substitute provider pool

Timeline for vaccinating child care providers:

More than 152,000 educators, school staff, child care providers and early learning educators are now eligible to receive the vaccine. However, the state only has 85,000 vaccines allocated for all educators in the next three weeks. There is not enough supply to vaccinate all educators right away. Meeting our vaccination goals depends on getting enough vaccine supply from the federal government. It is going to take at least 3 to 4 weeks to ensure educators and providers receive their first shot.

Scheduling a vaccine:

The Early Learning Division (ELD) has provided counties across Oregon with contact information for eligible providers. If you are a provider or an employer, you should expect to be contacted directly from local health officials or their partners to schedule a vaccine. You will also be responsible for sharing this information with all individuals (see above) associated with your program. As noted, timelines for getting the vaccine vary by county, so you may not be contacted this week. The COVID-19 vaccine will be free and you do not need health insurance.

How to get a vaccine:

Counties may offer the vaccine at events with different dates and times. Some counties have already started vaccinating educators, while others will need more time to begin this process. You can find more information posted on the [Oregon Health Authority's \(OHA\) webpage](#) about educator and child care provider events, along with Frequently Asked Questions.

Please resist the temptation to contact your doctor, local hospital or healthcare provider. You should only attend special educator vaccination events or go to vaccination sites that are clearly designated as open to educators and providers. When attending a vaccine event, wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Stay six feet or more away from others while inside and when you're standing in line outside.

What you can do now:

Stay up to date by monitoring your county's website or the OHA's [vaccine website](#). You do not have to show proof that you're an educator to receive a vaccine. However, vaccine providers may ask you to declare in some way that you are an early childhood educator or child care provider. For a smoother process, complete [ELD's attestation form](#) to help plan your communications for staff and all individuals associated with your program.

ELD assistance:

The ELD will continue to provide updates as information is available and encourages providers to visit the Frequently Asked Questions tab that includes a "vaccines" section, posted on the COVID-19 ["For Providers" webpage](#).

Providers are also invited to join ELD's series of virtual Q&A sessions to review recent Amendments to the "Health and Safety Guidelines for Child Care and Early Education Operating During COVID-19" and to receive a vaccine update.

Registered Family (RF) and Certified Family (CF) – Wednesday, January 27 | 6 – 7 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/95821865228?pwd=ckNkL0p2SU95eExSV3BOT0JWamJLUT09>

Certified Center (CC) and Recorded Programs – Thursday, January 28 | 6 – 7 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/93810003428?pwd=Nk5UTXZscTZlQUF6aFJMwStPUGtqdz09>

Spanish Language (All Types) – Saturday, January 30 | 9 – 10 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/99046387311?pwd=d2wxV1c0dkFzM0VDUVJzZ2VXZHK3QT09>

We appreciate your continued efforts to support families and children in Oregon.

Thank you,

The Early Learning Division