

Vaccine Access Update 2-26-21

This week, the Governor announced changes to the state's vaccination plan.

On March 1st, CT will move primarily to age-based prioritization according to this schedule:

<https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Vaccination---Phases>

To summarize relevant changes for our provider members:

- Residents and staff of congregate settings will continue to be prioritized on an ongoing basis.
- Educators and childcare providers will be prioritized alongside ages 55+, starting March 1.
- There is no longer a priority for other frontline essential workers.

Since late October, CCEH has forwarded communications from CT DPH indicating your frontline, essential staff were considered part of Phase 1b. Though many of your staff *have* been prioritized under the congregate settings plan, I want to acknowledge this is a real change that may impact some of your staff.

Storing Client Vaccine Records

HUD has issued guidance on vaccine data elements in HMIS:

<https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Data-Collection-Options-for-COVID-19-Vaccines.pdf>

Please watch for announcements from Nutmeg and CCEH when those go live in CT's HMIS.

Meanwhile, CCEH encourages providers to obtain client permission to collect and store copies of COVID vaccination records, which will facilitate updating these fields as they become available in HMIS. You may use the HMIS files and documents section of the client record for this purpose.

State Vaccine Website updates

Connecticut's vaccine information webpage includes scheduling information for congregate settings:

<https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Vaccinations-in-Congregate-Settings>

The page for employers has been removed. All information about eligibility is now here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Vaccinations>

Given the simplification of the state's prioritization criteria, this is likely the last vaccine communication I will send to this list. Thank you for all your efforts to ensure vaccine access for your clients and staff.

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