



## TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD

### Office of the First Selectman

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**COVID VACCINE UPDATE:** Ridgefield, CT: January 5, 2021: There have been many requests for information regarding where and when people over the age of 65 with or without disabilities can receive COVID-19 vaccinations. **Currently the State is vaccinating only Phase 1a** individuals which consist of Hospital and Healthcare Workers, along with First Responders who are directly responding to medical calls. **Prioritization of individuals beyond Phase 1a has not yet been determined** by the State Department of Public Health or the Governor. Those who will be eligible for vaccination in upcoming phases (1b and 1c) between January and May will be finalized and is expected to include:

- Critical workforce
- Other congregate setting
- Adults over 65-75
- High risk individuals under 65

**According to Governor Lamont in his news conference on January 4, 2021, the State is on track to complete Phase 1a (both doses) by the end of January. He expects Phase 1b to take months to complete.**

**Following these groups, the vaccines will be made available to the general public (Phase 2). This is expected to occur by summer 2021.**

The town website ([ridgefieldct.org](http://ridgefieldct.org)) will be updated as more information becomes available, such as how to register to be vaccinated. Residents are asked to be patient and avoid unnecessary requests for scheduling because that information is not yet available.

**The most up to date and comprehensive information available can be found on the state website at:** ([ct.gov/covidvaccine](http://ct.gov/covidvaccine)). The site includes:

- Information about phases and who is eligible for each phase including the current Phase 1a rollout
  - Information for employers (with Medical and Non-Medical Staff)
  - Information for employers who need to enroll staff to receive the vaccine
  - Information for providers on how to become a COVID-19 administrator
  - Information for Self-Employed and Independent Contractors eligible for Phase 1a on how to sign up (including dentists, independent health care workers etc.).
- Currently the site is updated for Phase 1a, but according to Governor Ned Lamont, it will be updated with information for the next phase in the next two or three weeks with the expectation that there will be a way to sign up both online and via telephone. *(Per Governor's News Conference Jan. 4, 2021.)*
  - As of January 5, hospitals and long-term care facilities in Connecticut have reported to the state that they have administered the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to **75,180** people. All of the doses under this first phase of the state's COVID-19 vaccine program are being administered to people in the healthcare workforce, and residents and staff of long-term care facilities, including nursing homes and assisted living facilities.
  - The DPH estimates that all nursing homes in Connecticut will have finished administering the first dose of the vaccine to their residents and staff by Friday, January 8. Assisted living facilities began administering the vaccine January 5.

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