



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD
Office of the First Selectman

Contact: First Selectman Rudy Marconi
selectman@ridgefieldct.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD INFORMATION ON STATE-LOCAL COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM

Ridgefield, CT: January 4, 2021: The vaccination program for the State of Connecticut is currently underway. The State has designated priority groups (or tiers) for each group to be vaccinated.

Priority 1a has been designated as the first group to receive this vaccine, now underway, and is expected to continue through January into early February. This group includes the following:

- Healthcare Personnel: All paid and unpaid persons servicing in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients of infectious materials.
- Long Term Care Facility Residents: Adults who reside in facilities that provide a range of services, including medical and personal care, to persons who are unable to live independently.
- First Responders at risk of exposure to COVID-19 through their response to medical emergencies such as Emergency Medical Technicians, Police and Fire.

Phase 1a **does not include** healthcare personnel that do not have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials, i.e., those who are teleworking or conducting telehealth communication are **NOT** eligible to receive vaccine at this time.

PRIORITIZATION OF INDIVIDUALS BEYOND PHASE 1A HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED.

Those who will be eligible for vaccination in upcoming phases between January and May have not been finalized, but it is expected to include:

- Critical Workforce
- Other Congregate Settings
- Adults over 65
- High Risk Individuals under 65

Following these groups, the vaccines will be made available to the general public. This is expected to occur by summer 2021. Availability and timing is dependent on the manufacturer's ability to provide vaccines. We will post further information as soon as it is released by state and federal officials on our town website at: ridgefieldct.org.

INFORMATION ON TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD VACCINATION PROGRAM

- The State of Connecticut determines the prioritization and timeline for vaccine rollout and will inform the Ridgefield Health Department when doses will be available for each category. A small number of Ridgefield's frontline workers and first responders have begun receiving the vaccine.
- It is anticipated that any person will be able to select any open COVID-19 clinic once their priority group is being vaccinated.

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- The Ridgefield Vaccination Program will issue ongoing statements and directions for each priority group as directives are received from the State. The goal is to ensure a coordinated and effective vaccination program is provided to all.
- The Town will provide ongoing vaccination information and will list it on the Town of Ridgefield's website (ridgefieldct.org), as well as other community locations for this vaccine in an effort to keep everyone informed and aware of who can be vaccinated, as well as when and where.
- It is important that everyone continues to monitor the CT COVID Vaccination program by also following the State's link: ct.gov/covidvaccine/access.

Remember – COVID vaccinations are voluntary – everyone has the option to be vaccinated when their priority group is invited to participate.

We ask for your patience as we embark on this lengthy process. If you have questions, you may send them to pio@ridgefieldct.org. Information sheets will also be provided at Town Hall. Please share this information, especially with those who do not have access to the Internet. Please continue to wear a mask, practice social distancing, and limit social gatherings with friends and families.

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400 Main Street • Ridgefield, CT 06877
Phone : (203) 431-2774 • Fax: (203) 431-2311 • selectman@ridgefieldct.org

www.ridgefieldct.org

WEAR YOUR MASK WASH YOUR HANDS. WATCH YOUR DISTANCE