



\*\*\*News Release\*\*\*  
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## ST. LUKE'S TO OPEN COVID-19 VACCINATIONS APPOINTMENTS FOR PEOPLE 65+

People can book COVID-19 vaccine appointments starting Feb. 1

Due to limited vaccine supply, providers are requesting that priority be given to Idahoans over 80

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SCHEDULING COVID-19 VACCINE APPOINTMENTS:

- Appointment scheduling opens for Groups 2.2 on Monday, Feb. 1 at 8 a.m. and continues for Groups 1 and 2.1.
- Providers are requesting that priority be given to people over the age of 80 or with serious health conditions.
- Younger, healthy seniors are encouraged to wait one week to allow the most vulnerable to schedule first given the limited availability of doses.
- ONLY qualifying people within the specific groups should schedule appointments at this time.
- COVID-19 vaccine will NOT be given if proper proof of employment or age is not provided at the appointment.
- St. Luke's patients can schedule appointments online using [myChart](#) for the quickest access.
- People who have never used St. Luke's services may [set-up](#) a myChart account online or by calling 208-381-9000.
- Those who cannot use myChart may call St. Luke's Connect at 208-381-9500 to set up an appointment.
- People may also set up online myChart [proxy access](#) for family members or dependents.

**Boise, ID** -- In alignment with the state and public health districts, St. Luke's Health System will open COVID-19 vaccine appointments for Idahoans who are age 65 and older. People in this next group can book vaccine appointments starting at 8 a.m. on Feb. 1, 2021. Due to limited vaccine supply, healthy, younger seniors are encouraged to wait one week to book their appointments to allow Idahoans over 80 years old or with serious health conditions to book their appointments first.

Idaho's seniors will join the state's health care workers, first responders, teachers, daycare workers, correctional and detention facility staff, home care professionals, long-term care facility staff and residents, dentists and pharmacists in our communities who are all now eligible to get the COVID vaccine. Idaho's COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee established the [priority groups](#) to determine the [timeline](#) for when Idahoans would be eligible for the vaccine. Only people who fall within the state's designated Groups 1, 2.1 should schedule appointments, with the addition of 2.2 starting Monday morning. That list includes:

### Frontline Essential Workers and Adults 65 Years of Age and Older

The essential workers (ACIP 1b) were first presented to CVAC 12/04/2020 based on the recommendations of ACIP/CDC. CVAC reviewed and approved at the 12/04/2020 meeting. ACIP further refined 1b to identify "frontline" essential workers and included adults 75 years of age and older. This was brought to CVAC at their 01/08/2021 meeting; CVAC recommended adoption of ACIP Phase 1b recommendations with the addition of adults 65 years of age and older. The Governor approved and further prioritized on 01/12/2021.

Category	Idaho Group/ Subgroup	ACIP Phase
<b>Frontline Essential Workers &amp; Adults 65 Years of Age and Older</b> <i>Frontline essential workers: workers who are in sectors essential to the functioning of society and are at substantially higher risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2.</i>	2	1b + part of 1c
First responders (firefighters/police) and safety (protective services/community support) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coroner and medical examiners</li> <li>• Idaho Fish and Game and USDA law enforcement officers</li> <li>• Adult and child protective services</li> <li>• Child welfare workers</li> <li>• Community food, housing, and relief services</li> </ul>	2.1	
Education: pre-K-12 school staff and teachers and daycare (childcare) workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential schools or facilities providing behavioral health treatment</li> </ul>	2.1	
Correctional and detention facility staff (other than medical)	2.1	
Adults 65 years of age and older	2.2	

To verify appropriate group placement, people will be required to provide proof of employment or age at their appointment. COVID vaccine will not be given if the person does not have the proper identification. Examples include a badge, pay stub, W2, driver's license, or passport.

Seniors will be able to make vaccine appointments beginning Monday at 8 a.m. St. Luke's patients can schedule appointments for their first dose of the vaccine online using [myChart](#) for the quickest access. People who have never used St. Luke's services may [set-up a myChart account](#) online or by calling 208-381-9000. Those who cannot use myChart because they do not speak English, have a disability that prevents them from doing so, or they don't have the necessary technology may call St. Luke's Connect at 208-381-9500 to set up an appointment when their phase and subgroup opens up for scheduling. People may also set up online [myChart proxy access](#) for family members or dependents. Second doses will be scheduled when the person checks in for their first dose.

The state estimates there are about 290,000 people in this next group. St. Luke's will methodically open the same number of appointments as it has in vaccine doses. People are encouraged to check back if they do not immediately receive an appointment, as St. Luke's will work diligently to add appointments as it receives additional vaccine. Individuals in this group can also contact their local public health district, pharmacy, or other health care organizations to learn more or schedule an appointment.

### **Future COVID-19 vaccinations**

St. Luke's continues to be reliant on health districts along with state and federal planning for many pieces of its vaccine program, including the amount of vaccine it receives weekly. At this time, St. Luke's is unable to set a specific timeline for when other groups will open for scheduling and is working to balance community demand with vaccine supply.

Patients interested in learning more about the COVID-19 vaccine should NOT call their local St. Luke's clinic or provider. Instead, they can stay informed by:

- Finding the latest COVID-19 vaccine information at the St. Luke's [COVID-19 Resources page](#) or following the quick link at the top of St. Luke's website, [Stlukesonline.org](#).
- Reading FAQs St. Luke's [COVID-19 vaccine page](#).
- Setting up a myChart account in advance by watching this short, step-by-step [video](#).
- Following St. Luke's on your preferred social media sites.
- Visiting the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's [COVID-19 vaccine information page](#).

While St. Luke's is a choice for those who will want to get the vaccine, it is not the only choice. Many health care organizations in Idaho are working to expand access and provide vaccines at the direction of the state and their local public health districts. People are encouraged to seek out appointment information from other sources, including [Central District Health](#), [South Central Public Health District](#), and [Southwest District Health](#).

### **Moving forward**

When anyone gets a COVID vaccine, it helps to protect us all, but until a significant number of people are vaccinated, it should only be considered an additional tactic in prevention efforts. St. Luke's encourages the community to continue to practice good measures to prevent the spread of the virus like face coverings, physical distancing, and hand hygiene.

St. Luke's will continue to be transparent and timely in communications, given the dynamic nature of all aspects of the pandemic, and is grateful for the patience, flexibility and understanding being exhibited as it works rapidly to both respond to the pandemic and share information regarding the health care organization's response.

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