



## **VACCINE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **Cuero Regional Hospital COVID-19 Hotline**

(where you will hear the latest updates on the vaccination):

**361-524-6129**

**Per DSHS – Overview of Vaccine Distribution:** Texas continues to receive doses of the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines, and is distributing statewide to hospitals, pharmacies, local health departments, freestanding ERs and other clinics.

**Who's getting the vaccine now?** If you are a front-line healthcare worker or resident of a long-term care facility, you are eligible now to receive the vaccine, since December 14. This group is considered Phase 1A (<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine/EVAP-Phase1A.pdf>)

If you are in Phase 1B (<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine/EVAP-Phase1B.pdf>) you are also eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine, depending on availability and the vaccine provider. Vaccine supply remains limited, but more vaccine will be delivered to providers each week. Phase 1B recipients include:

- People 65 years of age and older
- People 16 years of age and older with at least one chronic medical condition that puts them at increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19, such as but not limited to:
  - Cancer
  - Chronic kidney disease
  - COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
  - Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathies
  - Solid organ transplantation
  - Obesity and severe obesity (body mass index of 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or higher)
  - Pregnancy
  - Sickle cell disease
  - Type 2 diabetes mellitus

If you are in Phase 1A or 1B, please visit the Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Locations map

(<https://txdshs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=91ac7fb5e5fd47e7ada4acfe4a05920a>) to see if and where you might be able to get a vaccine today. Remember, your ability to get a vaccine today or this week will depend on vaccine availability at your provider's office, clinic, or facility.

# **Cuero Regional Hospital Vaccine FAQ**

## **Where can I find the latest updates on availability of the COVID-19 vaccine at Cuero Regional Hospital?**

Updates will be posted to:

- Our website – [www.cueroregionalhospital.org](http://www.cueroregionalhospital.org)
- Our social media channels (specifically our Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/cuerohospital](http://www.facebook.com/cuerohospital) and Twitter [@cuerohospital](https://twitter.com/cuerohospital))
- Press releases/media alerts will be sent to area media outlets, including local newspapers, radio stations and tv stations.

**Do you have a waiting list and how do I sign up?** Yes, Cuero Regional Hospital has a waiting list, which can be found on the homepage of our website – [www.cuerohospital.org](http://www.cuerohospital.org)

By completing and submitting the form, this does not guarantee that you will receive a vaccination, but will rather submit your information to our scheduling department to call you to schedule once the vaccines arrive and are ready for distribution specifically to Tier 1A and 1B.

**When can I get on a waiting list?** By submitting the vaccine interest form, found on the homepage of our website, you will be placed on a waiting list.

## **When do you expect the next vaccine allotment to arrive at Cuero Regional Hospital?**

We are awaiting our next round of vaccines so that we may begin Tier1B in the public. Once we receive word from the state that they are sending a shipment, we will begin contacting those on the waiting list that meet the required criteria to schedule.

**When will it be offered?** Once we receive the shipment, we will work to schedule the appointments, which will be offered during the week during normal business hours.

**Will an appointment be required?** Yes, vaccine distribution will be done by appointment only. No walk-ins allowed.

**Which vaccine do we have? Pfizer or Moderna?** Our first allotment was Moderna. This is a two-shot dose, which requires those that receive it to return in 28 days to receive the second dose. We are anticipating that our next allotment will be Moderna as well.

**Is there a charge for the vaccine?** Vaccines are free; however, there will be a small administration fee charged to your insurance. Medicare, Medicaid, and most commercial plans have no out-of-pocket expense to members for the COVID-19 vaccine and administration fee.

**What does it cost if I don't have insurance?** If a patient is self-pay, the cost is \$48 and that administration fee covers both doses. No one will be turned away due to inability to pay; financial assistance will be available.

**Once my appointment is secured, what can I expect when I arrive for my vaccine appointment?** You can expect to register, complete two vaccine forms, receive the shot and then wait 15 minutes to verify that you do not have any reaction.

**Have staff experienced any injection adverse reactions from the first dose?** Thus far, we have had staff experience injection site tenderness and minor low grade fever.

**Do I need to bring anything with me to prove I have an underlying medical condition that is listed in Phase 1B?**

Please review the list of underlying medical conditions on 1B to verify it is a qualifying medical condition per state guidelines. You will be required to attest you qualify for Phase 1B on the day of the vaccine. No copies of medical records are required.

**What is Phase 1B?** Texas Phase 1B Vaccine Priorities, per the Texas Department of State Health Services, are:

- People 65 years of age and older
- People 16 years of age and older with at least one chronic medical condition that puts them at increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19, such as but not limited to:
  - Cancer
  - Chronic kidney disease
  - COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
  - Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathies
  - Solid organ transplantation
  - Obesity and severe obesity (body mass index of 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or higher)
  - Pregnancy
  - Sickle cell disease
  - Type 2 diabetes mellitus

**What is the next phase after 1B?** Per the Texas Department of State Health Services:

The Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel (EVAP) is considering what criteria could be used for later stages of vaccine distribution. This webpage will be updated when those decisions are completed.

Spring 2021 is the best estimate of when vaccine will be available for the general public, but that may change. It depends on vaccine production and how quickly other vaccines become available.

**What insurance information do I need to bring?**

Bring your insurance card and driver's license or ID to registration. If you have a Medicare Advantage plan also bring your Traditional Medicare card as well. Traditional Medicare cards are red, white, and blue in color.

**Will the vaccine be offered at the clinics outside of Cuero?** Due to the administration requirements of the vaccine, we are only offering the vaccine at Cuero Regional Hospital at this time.

**Do you have to live in DeWitt County only to get the vaccine?** Per state guidelines, this is not a requirement to receive the vaccine.

**Additional Resources:**

**Texas Department of State Health Services COVID-19 Vaccine Information:**

**<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine.aspx>**

**CDC Frequently Asked Questions on COVID-19 Vaccine:**

**<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html>**