



News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ELIGIBILITY EXPANDED; MORE VACCINE AVAILABLE

Increased demand may continue to slow down appointment availability

MUSCATINE, Iowa - All Iowans are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine effective Monday, April 5, 2021. Iowans must be age 16 or older for the Pfizer brand vaccine, and 18 years or older to receive the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccines. The vaccine is the best tool available in the fight against the virus.

With eligibility expanded to all Iowans, vaccine supply will be lower than demand for several weeks. Local public health departments, doctor offices and pharmacies are working hard to vaccinate eligible Iowans as quickly as possible. Your patience during this time is appreciated. As vaccine supply increases, more appointments will be available and, eventually, every Iowan will be able to be vaccinated. The type of vaccine received at a local level is guided by the government. This means, at this time, you may not have the option to select a specific brand as each site may vary on the stock they can provide.

The Trinity Muscatine Public Health Department (TMPH) continues to receive and administer vaccines to the workforce and Muscatine County's populations with the



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highest health risk factors. TMPH has received an increase in vaccine allocations this week and anticipate this amount will continue from the federal and state government.

With this increase, TMPH will continue to allocate vaccine to all doctor offices in Muscatine County while delivering vaccines directly to the workforce and highest risk populations. Pharmacies within our county continue to receive an increase in vaccine allocations as well to serve all county residents interested in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

In addition to the increase in county COVID-19 vaccine allocations, Community Health Care, Inc. (CHC) is providing a large vaccine clinic to anyone 18 years and older. The CHC clinic will be hosted by the Trinity Muscatine Hospital, 1518 Mulberry Ave., Muscatine, IA, on April 8 and 9 with both days being the first dose of the Moderna vaccines. CHC will immediately schedule everyone for their second dose at the time of their appointment.

To register for an appointment with CHC please visit the following links:

Thursday registration is <https://bit.ly/3fBZC9f> **ACCESS CODE is: CHC.**

Friday registration is <https://bit.ly/39AacdM> **ACCESS CODE is: CHC.**

“It is a sign of relief and promise of hope to see so many vaccines entering our county,” Christy Roby Williams, Trinity Muscatine County Public Health Director, said. “We do believe it will become easier for the public to obtain their COVID-19 vaccine, if interested. TMPH will be able to keep their focus on health equity and identifying ways to ensure all county residents who want the vaccine can receive it, despite any barriers or challenges that they may face.”

For information and updates related to COVID-19, visit <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Vaccine> and follow us at @TrinityMuscatinePublicHealth on Facebook.