**COVID-19 Vaccines: A FAQ Prepared by EveryChild California**

**Frequently asked questions about prioritization of essential child care workers**

**in Tier 1 in Phase 1B.**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued [Emergency Use Authorizations (EUA) for two COVID-19 vaccines](https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-vaccines). More vaccines may be authorized early this year.

Learn more about FDA’s [Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccines](https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/vaccines/emergency-use-authorization-vaccines-explained)and watch a [video on what an EUA is](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGkwaESsGBQ).

1. **What is California’s COVID-19 Vaccine Plan?**

After healthcare workers and long-term care residents, the next to be vaccinated will be individuals who:

* Have higher risk for severe disease or death (due to age or other factors)
* Frontline essential workers – [*Child care workers are considered in this category*](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/downloads/slides-2020-12/slides-12-20/02-COVID-Dooling.pdf)
* Are unable to work at home
* Live or work in geographic areas that have been highly impacted
* Are most likely to spread disease to other workers or to the public

1. **What phase is the childcare workforce listed for prioritization?**

Childcare is in Tier 1 Phase 1B: <https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/>

1. **When will Tier 1 Phase 1B occur, making the vaccine available for childcare workers?**

* Vaccinations are being distributed on a county by county basis.
* Vaccination plans for each county are available at the [county websites](https://covid19.ca.gov/get-local-information/).
* After focused and appropriate efforts to reach the prioritized groups, vaccine providers may offer doses to people in lower priority groups when: Demand subsides in the current groups, or Doses are about to expire according to labeling instructions.
* Read CDPH [Recommendations for Moving Through Vaccine Phases and Tiers](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Vaccine-Prioritization.aspx).

1. **Who and how will the vaccine be administered?**

* Child care and early learning professionals are categorized as frontline essential workers in Tier 1 Phase 1B of the state prioritization. It is crucial to contact your county Department of Health, your agency health care provider and partner agencies to see what access you have to vaccine distribution.
* This is yet to be determined and will vary from county to county, see the county website link above to monitor.

1. **What proof of employment will we need to be able to provide to staff? Will they need ID Cards?**

* We are still seeking clarification around the specific proof childcare providers need to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. However, proof required by health care workers include: an employer-issued ID card, a letter from the employer stating current employee status and/or a recent paystub. None of these items have been deemed required for child care professionals, this is just a sample list. Your agency should begin to prepare a process now that can meet the need of providing proof of employment and proof of eligibility. EveryChild California will share resources and templates as they become available.

1. **What can I do to ensure my staff has everything they need to get vaccinated when Phase 1B opens?**

* EveryChild California continues to advocate to get as much clarity on the vaccination process as possible.
* We are still seeking clarification around this, EveryChild California will share resources and templates as they become available.

1. **Who will be the primary person of contact so that I can check on the status of the Vaccination?**

* This is yet to be determined and will vary from county to county, see the county website link above to monitor.

1. **Where can I review COVID- 19 vaccine facts and resources?**

* CDPH: [COVID-19 Vaccine fact sheet](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/COVID_VACCINE_FACT_SHEET-ENG-08.pdf)
* CDPH: [Healthcare Workers Frequently Asked Questions](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/HealthWorkersVaccineFAQs.pdf)
* CDPH: [COVID-19 vaccine planning](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/COVID-19Vaccine.aspx)
* CDPH: [Enrollment Resources](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/COVIDVaccineEnrollment.aspx)
* CDPH: [California COVID-19 Vaccination Program](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/COVID-19Vaccine.aspx)
* CDPH: [Allocation Guidelines for COVID-19 Vaccine During Phase 1A: Recommendations](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/CDPH-Allocation-Guidelines-for-COVID-19-Vaccine-During-Phase-1A-Recommendations.aspx)
* CDPH: [COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Allocated](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/VaccineDoses.aspx)
* CDPH: [California Data Use Agreement and Frequently Asked Questions](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/California-Data-Use-Agreement.aspx)
* CDC: [Vaccines](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html)
* CDC: [COVID-19 Vaccination](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html)
* CDC: [Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html)
* CDC: [Information about the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Pfizer-BioNTech.html)
* CDC: [Information about the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Moderna.html)

1. **Article on “Considerations for Employers Mandating COVID-19 Vaccination”**

[The following article](https://www.grsm.com/publications/2021/considerations-for-employers-mandating-covid-19-vaccination) provides an outline of relevant U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission updates, and corresponding best practices for employers on considerations for employers mandating COVID-19 vaccinations.