

CITY OF ROWLETT

COVID-19 Vaccine

Frequently Asked Questions

Last year, the federal government created Operation Warp Speed and set a goal to deliver 300 million doses of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines to be administered at no cost to recipients nationwide, with the initial doses available by January 2021. So far, two manufacturers, Pfizer and Moderna, have been approved and began shipping vaccines in mid-December. Currently, the availability of these vaccines is limited due to both the sheer magnitude of an operation this size and the extreme conditions needed to secure and maintain the vaccines.

Who can get the vaccine now?

The COVID-19 vaccine is still in very limited supply and is currently available only to front-line healthcare workers and residents at long-term care facilities (called [Phase 1A](#)), plus people over 65 or with a chronic medical condition that puts them at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (called [Phase 1B](#)).

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:
 - o Cancer
 - o Chronic kidney disease
 - o COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
 - o Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathies
 - o Solid organ transplantation
 - o Obesity and severe obesity (body mass index of 30 kg/m² or higher)
 - o Pregnancy
 - o Sickle cell disease
 - o Type 2 diabetes mellitus

Why doesn't Rowlett have their own vaccine distribution site?

The City of Rowlett contracts with the Garland Health Authority (GHA) to be our designated health authority. They are an approved vaccine provider and have the resources and infrastructure in place to vaccinate Rowlett residents in the fastest and most efficient manner.

- The GHA is the designated health authority for the cities of Rowlett, Garland and Sachse. They are contracted to provide our residents with 1) low-cost vaccinations, 2) communicable disease surveillance, 3) community health education, and 4) emergency public health response in case of disaster or a disease outbreak.
- With infrastructure, technical support, and staffing already in place, the GHA is an approved COVID-19 vaccine distributor and has support from the state to host a mega vaccine site at Homer B. Johnson Stadium.
- This partnership with the GHA offers another avenue for Rowlett residents to receive the vaccine – no matter their county of residence.

Do I have to live in Dallas County to get the vaccine at a Dallas County or Garland Health Authority mega site?

No, these sites are open to all eligible residents of the State of Texas.

How do I get signed up for a waitlist?

Qualifying residents are encouraged to register on multiple lists!

There is currently no way to estimate how long residents will be on these waitlists. We do not know how many doses of vaccines hubs will receive on a weekly basis, or if people will drop off the lists due to getting an appointment elsewhere. It is recommended residents register on multiple lists to improve chances of securing an appointment.

Dallas County

<https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination.php>

Registration by phone is available at 1-855-466-8639, 7 days/week, 7am-7pm. Registration assistance is available in English and Spanish.

City of Garland Health Department

<https://bit.ly/3sM3VTN>

Register by phone here: 972-205-3900.

**This site is currently receiving allocations of the Moderna vaccine, which requires Phase 1B registrants to be age 18 or above.

Rockwall County

<https://www.blockitnow.com/rockwallwaitlist>

Rowlett residents may also register for the Rockwall Helping Hands waitlist.

Parkland Hospital

Parkland is vaccinating their established 1B patients. Signing up for MyChart in order to get the vaccine with no history of care at Parkland will not qualify someone as a Parkland patient. Parkland also provides vaccines for some individuals who signed up through the [Dallas County Health and Human Services website](#). Parkland will contact those registered proactively. The general public (non-Parkland patients) cannot bypass the county's sign-up process and schedule an appointment directly with Parkland.

Private Healthcare Providers

Contact your healthcare provider, each provider has their own waitlist registration process.

Pharmacies

Additional pharmacy locations are coming online daily as vaccine availability increases. Similar to your private healthcare providers, each pharmacy has its own waitlist system.

[Find a location and contact information here.](#)

Statewide Vaccine Hubs

Qualifying residents can register to receive the vaccine at any vaccine hub in Texas.

[Find more provider hubs here.](#)

What happens after I sign up?

Registrants will receive an email confirming that they are on the waitlist. When an appointment becomes available, they receive an additional email with the details. If registrants signed up with a phone call (as opposed to online), they will be contacted by phone regarding their appointment when one becomes available.

When will the vaccine be available in locations other than the mega sites currently operating?

Private providers are being added to the list every day. However, there is currently no guaranteed timeframe as vaccine supply is still very limited. New locations will open as the supply increases. Residents are encouraged to register on multiple lists! [Find providers here.](#)

What assistance is available for those who need transportation to a vaccine distribution center?

At this time, the City of Rowlett does not currently have a mechanism in place for those needing transportation assistance. This challenge has been discussed and we will share any future updates through our regular communication channels.

Who decides vaccine allocation and distributions?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) determines how many doses Texas receives each week. From there, Texas has convened a team of appointed subject-matter experts to the [COVID-19 Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel](#) to develop vaccine allocation strategies as recommendations to the Texas Commissioner of Health.

Are there other vaccines currently in development?

Pfizer has begun a clinical trial for children aged 12-15 years, and has begun planning for a trial for children aged 5-11 years later this year. Additionally, Moderna has begun a clinical trial for children ages 12-17. Moderna has also begun testing a booster vaccine for potential use against COVID-19 variant strains.

Johnson & Johnson (J&J) has released new reports that their vaccine in a single dose regimen is 85% effective against severe illness, and 66% effective at preventing moderate and severe illness. J&J is also researching a two-dose regimen of this vaccine, for potential increased efficacy against the spread. They anticipate filing for their EUA in mid-February.

Novavax has also released data on their vaccine candidate, showing 89% efficacy against moderate and severe COVID-19 disease. They are also manufacturing an additional potential booster or supplement dose for variant strains of COVID-19. Novavax has applied for approval in the UK, and is working with the FDA to submit for an EUA.

AstraZeneca's vaccine has been approved for emergency use in the European Union, but has not yet been approved in the United States. Thus far, the vaccine has shown 82% efficacy after two doses, however, many countries are advising that this vaccine is not given to individuals over the age of 65, due to a lack of data surrounding this age group.

After Phase 1A and 1B, who gets the vaccine next?

Phase 1C eligibility has not yet been established. This is still a very fluid situation and eligibility is dependent upon vaccine production and how quickly other vaccines become available.

What do I do after being vaccinated?

Most COVID-19 vaccines will require a second dose. Be aware of your vaccine provider's process for getting your second dose. It takes time for your body to build protection after any vaccination. COVID-19 vaccines that require two shots may not protect you until a week or two after your second shot. It is important for all community members to continue using all the tools available help stop the spread of COVID-19. Continue to cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others, stay at least six feet away from others who do not live in your household, avoid crowds, and wash your hands often.

[REGISTER FOR V-SAFE](#)

V-safe is a smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Through v-safe, you can quickly tell the CDC if you have any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. Depending on your answers, someone from the CDC may call to check on you and get more information. V-safe will also remind you to get your second COVID-19 vaccine dose if you need one.

Find more information about the COVID-19 vaccine...

[City of Rowlett Vaccine Information](#)

[Department of State Health Services](#)

[Dallas County](#)

[Rockwall County](#)

[Garland Health Department](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)