



## COVID-19 Key Messages & Talking Points

01/28/2021

5:00 p.m.

**The COVID-19 vaccine is our ticket to ending this pandemic over the coming months and distribution remains the County Public Health Department's highest priority.**

- We are in early Phase 1b of our distribution efforts and, as of Friday, Jan. 22, have vaccinated 10,539 people who are 75 and older and/or are health care workers or community health workers.
- The local [COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force](#) has determined the next group should include anyone age 65 and older, but we likely will not have enough vaccine to begin vaccinating this group for a few more weeks.
- Thousands of eligible community members now have first-dose appointments scheduled at County COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics next week. We opened up next week's appointments online today at 9 a.m. and most sites were fully booked by around 3 p.m. However, there are still a small number of appointments available for tomorrow and next week at the Paso Robles clinic.
- Any eligible community members without internet access or who had trouble with the online appointment reservation system can call the County's Phone Assistance Center to ask if any appointments for next week have opened up.
- Appointments for the following week will open up on Thursday, Feb. 4 at 9 a.m.
- We now have three COVID-19 vaccine clinics in SLO County:
  - The South County clinic opened this week at Arroyo Grande High School.
  - The North County clinic opened last week at the Paso Robles Event Center.
  - The Central County clinic will move tomorrow to Cuesta College Performing Arts Center. (The County was forced to close the SLO vaccine clinic on Thursday, January 28 due to weather and will reopen it at the new Cuesta College location on Friday, January 29.)

**Don't be alarmed if you don't get your second dose the exact week you are eligible - it may take up to a month from your first dose appointment date to book your second dose appointment.**

- We will contact you about your second dose up to five weeks after your first dose.
- With approval from CDPH, we are using some of our second dose supply as first doses to vaccinate as many residents as possible, as quickly as possible.
- The CDC says that a person can wait up to six weeks - or even later - after the first dose to get their second dose without having to start the series over. We are following this guidance.