



COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

The Town of Crested Butte encourages all employees to receive a vaccination for COVID-19 once they are eligible to do so. Once employees are vaccinated, we can begin to return to mostly pre-COVID internal operations which will be a welcome relief to everyone.

Incentive: To further encourage employees to receive the vaccination once eligible, the Town is offering 8 hours of additional vacation time. This will be awarded to employees who get their first shot within 30 days of becoming eligible and who complete the second shot. This time off will be available for up to 12 months from the time it is awarded.

Timing: Most of the Marshals and Public Works employees have already received their first shots in December. The rest of us should be eligible in the next few months. The current timeline for vaccine deployment in Gunnison County is attached. At this time all Town employees are included in either Phase 1 or Phase 2 of the schedule. Your department head will be in touch with more information as the vaccine roll-out continues to let employees know when they are eligible due to their status as a Town employee. Anyone who qualifies earlier due to age, health or other reasons is encouraged to pursue the vaccine as soon as they are eligible.

Cost: There is no out of pocket cost for the vaccine. Town employees who receive health insurance through the Town will have their insurance billed similar to the annual flu shot. At this time, there is no out of pocket expense for those individuals without insurance.

Opting out: The Town is not mandating anyone to receive the vaccine, although it is strongly encouraged. For those who are eligible and choose not to receive the vaccine, you will be asked to complete a form acknowledging that you have been offered and chosen to decline the vaccination. Reasons for declining will not be requested or documented. As restrictions are relaxed in the workplace, those who choose not to be vaccinated may be required to maintain certain protocols such as mask wearing and distancing, that those who are vaccinated will not be subject to.

More Information: There is a lot of good information out there about the vaccine and the Town encourages employees to do their research as they consider their choice to get the vaccine. Here are some resources staff may want to consider:

[Dr. Jason Hogan's Q&A on COVID-19 Vaccine](#) – Dr. Hogan is a local Emergency Medicine Physician here in the Gunnison Valley and he put together a nice ½ hour video overview for Gunnison Valley Hospital employees on December 10th.

[Gunnison County Vaccine Resources](#) – Website with resources on the currently available vaccines and a general FAQ. Includes many links to additional resources.

[State of Colorado Vaccine FAQ](#) – A lengthy list of questions and answers about many aspects of COVID-19 vaccinations.

PHASE 1

Winter



1A

Highest-risk health care workers and individuals:

- People who have direct contact with COVID-19 patients for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- Long-term care facility staff and residents.

1B

Coloradans age 70+, moderate-risk health care workers, first responders, frontline essential workers, and continuity of state government:

- Health care workers with less direct contact with COVID-19 patients (e.g. home health, hospice, pharmacy, dental, etc.) and EMS.
 - Firefighters, police, COVID-19 response personnel, correctional workers, and funeral services.
 - People age 70 and older.
-
- Frontline essential workers in education, food and agriculture, manufacturing, U.S. postal service, public transit and specialized transportation staff, grocery, and public health, and direct care providers for Coloradans experiencing homelessness.
 - Essential officials from executive, legislative and judicial branches of state government.
 - Essential frontline journalists.

PHASE 2

Spring



2

Higher-risk individuals and other essential workers:

- People age 65-69.
- People age 16-64 with obesity, diabetes, chronic lung disease, significant heart disease, chronic kidney disease, cancer, or are immunocompromised.
- Other essential workers and continuity of local government.
- Adults who received a placebo during a COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial.

PHASE 3

Summer



3

The general public:

- Anyone age 16-64 without high risk conditions.

***Timeline subject to change based on supply chain. Prioritization subject to change based on data, science, availability.**

Note: CDPHE recognizes the Tribal sovereignty of the Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute Indian Tribes, and that the Tribes have the authority to determine how vaccine supply will be prioritized for their populations, even if their prioritization scheme is different than what CDPHE recommends. Some federal entities such as the Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, Department of State, Veteran's Hospital Association, and Indian Health Services will be vaccinated by the federal government. Children and pregnant people are not included in this preliminary phased approach; they may be prioritized for vaccine contemporaneously when/if safety and efficacy data are available with the appropriate ACIP recommendation.