



## Alaska Department of Health and Social Services

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### Coronavirus Disease 2019

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Information for all Alaskans

### How is the state of Alaska planning for a COVID-19 vaccine?

The State of Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium are working jointly to plan for distribution of COVID-19 vaccine. While no vaccine is currently available, we are reviewing federal guidance and are following progress on COVID-19 vaccine trials and potential Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized vaccine(s).

On October 16 an  [Alaska Draft COVID-19 Vaccination Plan](#) was submitted to the CDC for review. This plan will be adjusted as we learn more.

### When will the vaccine be available?

An exact date the vaccine will be made available is not yet known. We are planning so we will have a clear course of action when a vaccine is available. A limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine may be available as soon as November 2020.

### Will the vaccine be available to everyone in Alaska?

At first, vaccine would be available in limited supply and would be offered to certain groups. We are receiving ongoing guidance from federal agencies on how to prioritize availability of vaccine. Some of the prioritized populations may include:

- > Healthcare workers
- > Staff and residents in long-term care and assisted living facilities
- > Critical worker infrastructure workforce
- > People at increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness
- > People at increased risk of acquiring or transmitting COVID-19

The COVID-19 vaccine may not be recommended for children at first. This is because early [clinical trials](#) for various COVID-19 vaccines only included non-pregnant adults. The groups recommended to receive the vaccines could change in the future as clinical trials expand their participants.

### Will there be a COVID-19 vaccine mandate?

There are no plans for a State of Alaska COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

### What will be the cost of the COVID-19 vaccine?

We are reviewing options for making the vaccine available to Alaskans at no charge, or at reduced cost.

COVID-19 vaccine and ancillary supplies will be distributed by the federal government at no cost to enrolled COVID-19 vaccination providers. It's expected that providers will be able to bill insurance an administration fee.