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**Subject:** FW: Important Updates Regarding COVID-19 Vaccines, Launch of Newly Licensed Health Care Providers and Facilities Lookup, and Reactivation of Inactive Licenses  
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**Mission:**  
 To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Ron DeSantis**  
 Governor

**Scott A. Rivkees, MD**  
 State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

## Important Updates Regarding COVID-19 Vaccines, Launch of Newly Licensed Health Care Providers and Facilities Lookup, and Reactivation of Inactive Licenses

January 11, 2021

### Populations to Receive the COVID-19 Vaccine and Vaccine Providers

In accordance with [Executive Order 20-315](#) issued on December 23, 2020, providers shall only administer COVID-19 vaccine to the following populations: long-term care facility residents and staff, persons 65 years of age and older, and health care personnel with direct patient contact. Hospital providers, however, also may vaccinate persons who they deem to be extremely vulnerable to COVID-19. As additional information becomes available, it will be posted on the Florida Department of Health’s COVID-19 vaccines in Florida webpage: <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/COVID-19-Vaccines-in-Florida/>.

Vaccination sites are serving specific populations; please contact the vaccination site as the population served could expand. The number of vaccines available in the state varies from week to week. As more vaccines become available in our community, please continue to monitor our [website](#) for updates. The table below lists the populations currently eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccines and vaccine providers.

Eligible Populations Able to Receive Vaccine Under Executive Order 20-315	Primary Vaccine Providers	Additional Vaccine Providers
Long-term care facility residents and staff	CVS and Walgreens*	Florida Department of Health and Florida Department of Emergency Management
Persons 65 years of age and older	County health departments and Hospitals	State-supported vaccination sites; community health care providers, including federally qualified health centers (FQHCs); faith-based sites; and retail providers (e.g., Publix)
Health care personnel with direct patient contact	Hospitals and COVID-19 vaccine providers	State-supported vaccination sites; county health departments and other community health care providers, including FQHCs; and faith-based sites
Persons deemed extremely vulnerable to COVID-19 by hospital providers	Hospitals only	N/A

\*At the direction of Governor Ron DeSantis, the Florida Department of Health and Florida Division of Emergency Management are supporting CVS and Walgreens in their efforts to vaccinate long-term care facilities residents and staff.

### COVID-19 Vaccine Transfer

There may be times when you want to transfer COVID-19 vaccines from your inventory to another site within your organization or to another Vaccine for Children/Vaccine for Adult (commonly referred to as VFC/VFA) provider outside of your organization. The [Transferring COVID-19 Vaccine Inventory Guide](#) will give you the step-by-step instructions on how to transfer your site's inventory. The [COVID-19 Vaccine Transfer Process](#) is a quick overview to assist health care providers with understanding the transfer requirements, application for transfer, and final approval. It is important to note that any transfer of COVID-19 vaccine must receive prior approval from the Florida Department of Health.

### Providers Authorized to Administer COVID-19 Vaccine

The list below contains health care professions whose governing practice act or federal guidance authorizes the administration of vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines. If you have specific questions regarding a profession, please contact the respective regulatory board office at [MedicalQualityAssurance@flhealth.gov](mailto:MedicalQualityAssurance@flhealth.gov).

Profession	Legal Authority
Medical Doctors (includes all license types)	Section 458.305(3), Florida Statutes
Osteopathic Physicians (includes all license types)	Section 459.003(3), Florida Statutes
Physician Assistants	Section 459.022(4)(e), Florida Statutes Section 458.347(4)(e), Florida Statutes
Registered Nurses	Section 464.003(19), Florida Statutes
Advanced Practice Registered Nurses	Section 464.003(2), Florida Statutes
Licensed Practical Nurses	Section 464.003(18), Florida Statutes
Certified Nursing Assistant with Registered Nurse Delegation	Section 464.201(5), Florida Statutes
Paramedics	Section 401.272(2)(b), Florida Statutes
Pharmacists	Section 465.189, Florida Statutes, and <a href="#">Health and Human Services Guidance Memorandum Dated 9/9/2020</a>
Registered Pharmacy Interns	Section 465.189, Florida Statutes, and <a href="#">Health and Human Services Guidance Memorandum Dated 9/9/2020</a>
Registered Pharmacy Technicians	<a href="#">Health and Human Services Guidance Memorandum Dated 10/21/2020</a>

### New Licensee Lookup

The Division of Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) has updated the online search portal to allow hospitals and other health care locations to [search](#) for new licensed health care practitioners and facilities. This new search feature allows users to locate health care practitioners or facilities based on board/council, profession, licensure date, licensure date range, or by county. All health care professions and facilities regulated by MQA are included. Please see our list of [Regulated Professions](#) for assistance in locating the profession you are seeking.

### Reactivation of Inactive Licenses

In an effort to ensure that all Floridians have access to licensed health care providers the Florida Department of Health is temporarily reactivating unencumbered inactive licenses to assist during the COVID-19 public health emergency, in accordance with section [381.00315\(1\)\(c\)3](#), Florida Statutes. This provision applies to inactive medical doctors, osteopathic physicians, physician assistants, licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, respiratory therapists, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics.

Inactive licensees who meet the criteria of this section must apply for reactivation. To temporarily reactivate an inactive license, log into [MQA Online Services Portal](#) and follow the [user guide](#). Once reactivated, the [License Verification](#) website will display "Public Health Emergency Active." A license that is reactivated under this provision will remain in active status for the duration of the public health emergency unless the State Health Officer determines that the health care practitioner is no longer needed to provide services during the public health emergency.

### COVID-19 Vaccination Resources

For updates about the COVID-19 vaccine administration and distribution efforts from Governor Ron DeSantis, please visit [FDOH COVID-19 Vaccines in Florida Webpage](#). The Florida Department of Health provides a daily COVID-19 vaccine report available at [FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov](https://www.floridahealth.gov/covid-19).

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