



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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First drive-through COVID vaccination clinic for healthcare workers Jan. 12

The Rock Island County Health Department will hold a socially distanced drive-through COVID-19 vaccination clinic **for healthcare workers only** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 12 at the Greater Quad City Auto Auction, 4015 78th Ave., Milan. Vaccine supplies at this point are limited.

Only healthcare workers with appropriate identification are eligible to receive the vaccine at this clinic. RICHD leaders expect to have clinics at the auto auction most Tuesdays until every resident has an opportunity to take the vaccine through this phased approach outlined by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Masks and social distancing requirements will be enforced.

Healthcare workers include: clinicians, (nurses and nursing assistants, physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants), physical/occupational/speech therapists, respiratory technicians, dentists, dental hygienists, pharmacists, plasma and blood donation staff, morticians, home health workers, school nurses, optometrists, COVID-19 testing staff, dialysis staff, urgent care workers, corrections nurses/aides, vaccine clinic workers, group home residential staff, environmental service and reception staff at congregate care facilities, congregate care surveyors, hospice and palliative care staff, and community health workers when acting as health aide or health translators.

Until vaccine supplies become more available, priority will be given to high-risk healthcare workers involved in direct patient care and those working in transport, environmental services, or other healthcare facility services where the risk of exposure to bodily fluids or aerosols exists.

In addition, we are working out final partnership details with pharmacies in the county to offer vaccines, as well as Community Health Care to offer weekend hours. More information will be available soon.

“We ask for your patience as we move through the largest public health undertaking in modern history,” said Nita Ludwig, administrator of the Rock Island County Health Department. “We have a plan to vaccinate every eligible resident in Rock Island County, but it will take time. Your turn will come. Please continue to wear your mask, keep 6 feet between you and others and wash your hands frequently.”

Both vaccines given emergency use approval by the federal government require two doses. You will receive a vaccination card noting what vaccine you were given and when you must come back for your second dose. We suggest taking a picture of the card in case you lose it.

When healthcare workers have been vaccinated, we will move to Phase 1B and have directions from the state health department on which groups will go next. We will use the same drive-through facility at the Greater Quad-City Auction in Milan. The groups include:

- Residents 75 and older
- Frontline essential workers, defined as those workers who are essential for the functioning of society: firefighters and law enforcement officers; corrections officers; food and agriculture

workers; U.S. Postal Service workers; manufacturing workers; grocery store workers; public transit workers; teachers and support staff; and daycare workers

IDPH has yet to set groups beyond Phases 1A and 1B. We will tell you when it does.

There will be no out-of-pocket cost to receive the COVID-19 at a RICHD drive-through COVID-19 vaccination clinic. Other providers may charge an administrative fee that could be billed to insurance, Medicare or Medicaid.

More information will be released as it becomes known. Please keep watching through our media partners, our social media pages, our websites and togetherqc.com.

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