

## COVID-19 Vaccine: Update #19 Vaccine Eligibility Update

**Attention:** Physicians, Emergency Departments, Hospital CEOs, Hospital Laboratories, Infection Control Practitioners, Occupational Health Practitioners, Walk-In Clinics/Urgent Care Clinics, Nurse and Nurse Practitioners, EMS, Designated Officers, Midwives, Family Health Teams, Pharmacies, Central LHIN, NSM LHIN, Beausoleil First Nation, Moose Deer Point First Nation, Rama First Nation, Wahta First Nation, Long-term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, Hospices, Coroners, Funeral Directors, Dentists, Group Homes, Homes for Special Care, Optometrists, Corrections, Municipalities, Licensed Child Care Providers

**Date:** April 30, 2021

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**Anyone 55+ years of age (born 1966 or earlier) in Ontario can now book an appointment to receive their COVID-19 vaccine at a community clinic directly using the provincial booking system.**

As announced by the province yesterday, with growing vaccine supply the rollout of COVID-19 vaccine has been accelerated over the next few weeks, with a target of everyone in Ontario 18 years and older able to book their appointment by the end of May.

Moving ahead the majority of people will be able to book their appointments in the coming weeks directly using the [provincial vaccine appointment booking system](#) or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line: 1-833-943-3900. Over the coming weeks, as new groups are added to the provincial eligibility criteria, they will be able to book directly on the provincial system.

The following people *cannot* book directly on the provincial appointment system and must continue to pre-register on the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) [website](#):

- Essential caregivers of residents in long term care homes and retirement homes
- Health care workers
- Indigenous adults and their household members
- Those receiving chronic home care
- Faith leaders at high exposure risk
- Those living in a congregate living setting

Anyone from the above list who is, or becomes, eligible based on age or another provincial criteria can book directly on the provincial site.

Those with **high-risk health conditions** and their eligible caregivers will no longer be required to pre-register on the SMDHU website. Starting next week, once the province announces that high-risk health conditions are eligible to book, they will be able to call the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line to book an appointment.

The following is the anticipated schedule to expand COVID-19 vaccine booking eligibility over the next month, to be further evaluated in advance of each age band drop. The province will be announcing each new group once they are eligible to book, potentially on any day of the designated week (i.e. all groups in a particular week will not automatically be able to start booking on the Monday of that week).

	<b>Week of May 3</b>	<b>Week of May 10</b>	<b>Week of May 17</b>	<b>Week of May 24</b>
<b>Allocation Method</b>	<b>50% all PHU + 50% to hotspots</b>	<b>50% all PHU + 50% to hotspots</b>	<b>Allocation on per capita basis<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Allocation on per capita basis<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>Provincial Age Band</b>	<b>Age band to 50+</b>	<b>Age band to 40+</b>	<b>Age band 30+</b>	<b>Age 18+</b>
<b>Hotspot Age Band</b>	<b>Age band to 18+ in hotspots</b>			
<b>Health Conditions</b>	<b>High Risk Health Conditions</b>	<b>At risk health conditions</b>		
<b>Cannot Work from Home</b>	<b>Cannot work from home Group 1</b>	<b>Cannot work from home Group 2</b>		

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> The per capita allocation will be calculated based on the remaining eligible population in each region to ensure equality of access across the province.

It is anticipated that the High Risk and At-risk Health Conditions groups will be asked to self-attest at the time of booking and attendance at clinic. The province will be providing additional information to clarify eligible conditions.

### **Additional Information**

For more information about the rollout of COVID-19 vaccine in our area, please refer to the SMDHU [COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunization](#) webpages.

For more information on the province’s three-phased vaccine distribution implementation plan, please visit [COVID-19 vaccines for Ontario](#).

There are a number of COVID-19 resources and documents available through our Health Professional Portal at [www.smdhu.org/hportal](http://www.smdhu.org/hportal) as well as through [Public Health Ontario](#) and the [Government of Ontario](#).