

COVID-19 Vaccination

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. **“Where are vaccines being administered?”** Aransas County residents are NOT restricted to receiving a vaccine in Aransas County. In other words, you can go to Bee County, Nueces County, or anywhere else you find a place to get vaccinated. There are currently three ways to get the vaccine:
 - A. **Hubs** – Beginning in January 2021, the State of Texas established large vaccination sites or hubs around the state. The goal of these hubs is to inoculate more people with the vaccine and a simpler way to sign up for an appointment. Providers will focus on vaccinating areas and populations hardest hit by COVID-19. The hub serving Aransas County is operated by Nueces County at the Richard M. Borchard Fairgrounds in Robstown (click here for map (<https://www.nuecesknows.com/fairgrounds-map>)). A sub-hub closer to Aransas County is expected to open in Corpus Christi in the near future. Nueces County Health District (<https://www.nuecesknows.com/>) usually receives notification of when they will receive a vaccine shipment the evening before it is scheduled to arrive. Once the arrival time is confirmed, the Health District will release the information through its social media channels; local news and media outlets are also notified. In other words, there are only a few hours of notice before the vaccination event so those needing vaccinations are encouraged to stay tuned to local news media and/or the Health District’s social media channels. There is no pre-registration required to receive the vaccine at the Nueces County hubs; registration will be done in-person and on-site.
 - B. **Private Providers** – A limited number of private providers are providing vaccines. The Texas Department of Emergency Management and Department of State Health Services have developed an interactive map ([click here](#)) that shows sites administering the vaccine and is updated daily. In Aransas County, the Family Planning Clinic, HEB, and Walgreens Pharmacy have had the vaccine. Each provider has their own system for administering the vaccine and you are strongly encouraged to contact the provider ahead of time to verify vaccine availability.
 - C. **Aransas County Vaccination Events** – Our county will receive limited allocations of the vaccine from the State of Texas from time to time. The Texas Department of Emergency Management and Department of State Health Services will operate and manage these events. Aransas County Medical Services, Inc. (ACMSI), has volunteered to coordinate administration of Aransas County vaccines that are not being offered by private providers. We anticipate being given less than 72 hours’ notice of when to expect an allocation of vaccine. To improve the registration process, ACMSI has developed an online pre-registration form at <https://forms.gle/kLvft9h1S7nC2759>. When a vaccination event is scheduled for Aransas County, those on the ACMSI list will be contacted first.

2. **“What do 1A, 1B, and the General Public Categories mean?”** Phase 1A, which consists of frontline health care workers and residents of long-term care facilities, has already been carried out in Aransas County. Phase 1B is for anyone age 65 or older and/or 16 years of age or older with at least one chronic medical condition that puts them at increased risk of serious illness from COVID-19. Such conditions include, but are not limited to, cancer, kidney

disease, COPD, heart conditions, obesity, pregnancy, sickle cell disease, or Type 2 diabetes. General Public and the latest information from the Texas Department of Health Services is here <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine/>

3. **“Where can I find information on OTHER vaccination hub sites other than Corpus Christi?”** Click [here](#) for COVID 19-Vaccination Hub Providers.
4. **“How does the second dose work?”** Recipients will get a reminder that their second dose is needed and a link to pre-register for it from the location that provided the primary dose. You should be contacted by phone or email prior to the second dose. If have not been notified by the time your second dose is due, please contact the location of primary dose or call 211 for further directions .Your second dose must be from the same manufacturer (Pfizer or Moderna) as the first dose you received.
5. **“How much does it cost?”** There is no charge for the vaccine at hub providers. Private providers/doctor’s offices can charge an administrative fee to provide the shot. If your doctor is charging an administrative fee, check with your insurance provider to see if the cost will be covered.
6. **“Why have essential employees not been mentioned in the first two phases?”** The phases were defined by an expert panel consisting of health care, medical, and public health professionals that had to decide who was at higher risk for contracting the disease first. While the phase may not say “essential employee” you still may fall into Phase 1A or 1B if you are over 65 or have chronic medical conditions.
7. **“Have our nursing home residents been vaccinated?”** Health and Human Services oversees the nursing homes and they set up a system for them to be vaccinated. They started vaccinating nursing homes on December 28. Of the residents choosing to be vaccinated, all three of our nursing and assisted living facilities have been or are on a list to be vaccinated.
8. **“How can we help?”** Be patient. The goal is to vaccinate as many people in the community that want to be vaccinated. Check all sites available.
9. **“Can I get the COVID-19 vaccine if I just got my flu shot?”** It is recommended that you wait at least 14 days before getting your COVID-19 vaccine. You should not get any other vaccines for at least 14 days before you get your COVID-19 vaccine.
10. **“Can I get the COVID-19 vaccine if I already had coronavirus?”** Yes, you may still get the vaccine as long as you do not have an active COVID-19 infection.
11. **“What if I am pregnant/lactating (breast feeding) can I get vaccinated?”** Yes, you can get the vaccine, but talk to your OB/GYN before making that decision.
12. **“What if I have an immunosuppressed disorder, can I get vaccinated?”** Yes, you can get the vaccine, but it is good to talk to your physician before making that decision.

13. **“What if I am diagnosed with COVID-19, can I get vaccinated?”** Not while you are sick with the virus.
14. **“What are commonly asked questions of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)?”** Click [here](#) for questions.
15. **“What are commonly asked questions of the Center for Disease Control (CDC)?”** The federal government, through [Operation Warp Speed](#) has been working since the pandemic started to make one or more COVID-19 vaccines available as soon as possible. Although CDC does not have a role in developing COVID-19 vaccines, CDC has been working closely with health departments and partners to develop vaccination plans for when a vaccine is available. CDC is working with partners at all levels, including healthcare associations, on flexible COVID-19 vaccination programs that can accommodate different vaccines and scenarios. See commonly asked questions [here](#).
16. **“What is the vaccination distribution process?”** Click [here](#) for chart on national level. Click here for [plan](#) on the state level.
17. **“How can I tell if I am getting a phone call, email, or letter about COVID from someone who is trying to scam me?”** It is not unusual during an emergency for unscrupulous people to attempt to take advantage of others. The vaccine is paid for by the U.S. Government so you should never be charged for the vaccine; however, some providers may charge a small fee to administer the shot. You also never have to pay a contact tracer or give your Social Security number or financial information to anyone. You can find much more detailed information on how to avoid being the victim of a COVID scam by going to the Federal Trade Commission’s website at <https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams-consumer-advice>. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services also has information at <https://oig.hhs.gov/coronavirus/fraud-alert-covid19.asp>. If you think you have been the victim of a scam or someone has attempted to scam you, please call the Rockport Police Department at (3621) 729-1111 or the Aransas County Sheriff’s Department at (362) 729-2222.