

MEMO TO INVITE HIGH PRIORITY HEALTH CARE WORKERS FOR VACCINATION

Monday March 15, 2021

Dear High Priority Health Care Worker,

As the supply of COVID-19 vaccines arrives in stages, York Region Public Health continues to move ahead with vaccinating health care workers in priority sequence, as identified by the [Ontario Ministry of Health](#).

High Priority health care workers who **live or work in York Region** are invited to book an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccination.

The **High Priority** health care worker group includes all front-line health care workers who interact with patients or clients in the following settings and sectors:

- **Community care with lower risk of exposure and serving special populations:** developmental services, mental health and addictions services
- **Community care with lower risk of exposure and serving general population:** campus health, community diagnostic imaging, daycare/school nursing, dietary/nutrition, independent health facilities (e.g. Opticians/Optomety, Podiatry, Audiology, medical and surgical specialities), Naturopathy/Holistic care, Social work, Sexual health clinics
- **Non-acute rehabilitation and therapy:** Chiropractic, Chronic pain clinics, Kinesiology, Occupational therapy, Physiotherapy, Psychiatry, Psychology, Psychotherapy, Registered massage therapy / Acupuncture, Other therapy
- **Public Health (all other public health)**

Please note if you work from home exclusively **without** client interaction, you are not currently eligible unless specified by the Ministry (i.e. all other public health). If you have a home practice where you see clients face-to-face, you remain eligible for vaccination in the **High Priority** group.

For additional details, please see the Ministry of Health's [Guidance for Prioritizing Health Care Workers for COVID-19 Vaccination](#) (Version 2.0, February 9, 2021).

TO ACCESS THE COVID-19 VACCINE

- Confirm you and/or your front-line employees living or working in York Region are eligible as part of the **High Priority** group

PUBLIC HEALTH

1-877-464-9675
TTY 1-866-512-6228
york.ca/COVID19



- In a health care setting, workers including any regulated health professionals and any staff member, contract worker, student/trainee, registered volunteer or other essential caregiver, including workers not providing direct patient care such as cleaning staff, food services staff, information technology staff, security, research staff and other administrative staff, are included
- In a non-health care setting, only workers providing a health service or direct patient care are included; as an example, a daycare or a school is considered a non-health care setting; in a daycare or a school, only workers who provide a health service or direct patient care would be eligible; this could include for example, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists or nursing staff employed by a school or school board; other staff not providing direct patient care would not be eligible at this time
- Visit york.ca/COVID19Vaccine and select any of the following clinic locations to book an appointment:
 - Town of Georgina – Georgina Ice Palace
 - City of Richmond Hill – Richmond Green Sports Centre
 - City of Vaughan – Maple Community Centre
- **New appointments and clinic locations are being added as vaccine supply becomes available in York Region; we encourage you to check back often**
- Each eligible employee is to individually book their own COVID-19 vaccination appointment online; telephone support is available and is listed under the applicable clinic
- Vaccines are available by appointment only; do not visit a clinic site without a scheduled appointment or if you do not meet the current eligibility, as you will be turned away
- Please bring the following items to your vaccination appointment:
 - Your Ontario Health Card (OHIP) if you have one
 - Photo identification
 - Proof of occupation (e.g. employee ID badge, certificate of registration and/or note from employer)
 - Proof of address that you live or work in York Region
- Public Health takes vaccine prioritization seriously; providing false information may result in cancellation of your appointment and notification to the appropriate regulatory college

REMINDER

Infection, prevention and control measures including use of appropriate PPE and physical distancing must continue following vaccination.

RESOURCES

For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine program visit york.ca/COVID19 and/or the following:

- York Region Public Health resources:
 - [COVID-19 Vaccinations in York Region](#)
 - [COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics](#)
 - [Preparing for your COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
 - [COVID-19 Vaccines – What you need to know](#)
 - [Vaccination Prioritization for Health Care Workers](#)
- Province of Ontario resources:

- [COVID-19 vaccines for Ontario](#)
- Government of Canada resources:
 - [Vaccines for COVID-19: Authorized vaccines](#)

Thank you for your support and participation.

Sincerely,

York Region Public Health