

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Public Health Department

www.acphd.org

Colleen Chawla, Director Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Director Nicholas Moss, MD, Health Officer

Public Health Department: Main Line (510) 267-8000

COVID-19 Information: (510) 268-2101

COVID-19 Vaccination Instructions for Family Caregivers

On February 5, 2021, the <u>California Department of Developmental Services</u> (DDS) and the <u>California Department of Public Health</u> (CDPH) determined that family caregivers for individuals with certain disabling conditions should be considered healthcare workers eligible for COVID-19 vaccination in Phase 1a.

Family caregivers are eligible if they provided care to a person of any age that has a disabling condition that <u>increases risk for severe COVID-19 infection</u> and requires routine, hands-on care that cannot be delivered in a socially distanced manner. DDS and CDPH specifically call out the following conditions:

- Cerebral palsy
- Down Syndrome
- Epilepsy
- Specialized health care needs, including dependence upon ventilators, oxygen, and other technology

Family members within the same household who do not provide direct care are not eligible for vaccination. Eligible family members must get documentation from the <u>Regional Center of The East Bay</u> or from a qualified provider (see list below) that verifies both the condition of the family member who is being cared for and the caregiver's status as a health care worker.

Step-By-Step Guide

1. If your disabled family member is a client of the <u>Regional Center of The East Bay</u> (RCEB), request a letter from your family member's RCEB case manager that verifies your eligibility for vaccination.

OR

Obtain an Attestation Letter for the qualifying condition of the family member you are caring for from a qualified healthcare provider. View the County's Attestation Letter template that can be found at https://bit.ly/2ZtQ1rQ and here. The attestation letter can be signed by the following qualified providers, including but not limited to:

- Physicians (MD or DO)
- Registered Nurses

- Nurse Practitioners
- Public Health Nurses (RN or PHN)



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- Physician Assistants
- Occupational Therapists
- Physical Therapists

- California Children's Services (CCS) Case Managers
- 2. After you obtain family caregiver health care worker eligibility documentation, sign up to be notified for when it is your turn to be vaccinated:
 - Complete the Alameda County Resident Vaccine Notification form found online at http://bit.ly/3udR5OT or here and fill in all required categories, AND
 - Under the category for Occupation Sector, select Health Care/ Public Health.
- 3. You will receive an email to notify you when it is your turn to be vaccinated. The email will include a link that will allow you to schedule your vaccination appointment. When you have reached this step, be sure to check your email frequently as appointments fill up fast.
- 4. Once you schedule your appointment, you will receive an appointment confirmation email with the time and location of your vaccination appointment.
- 5. When you arrive at your vaccination appointment, be sure to bring the following documentation:
 - Attestation letter from the <u>Regional Center of The East Bay</u> or your Attestation Letter signed by one
 of the qualified providers as listed in step 2, **AND**
 - Photo ID (does not have to be government issued)
- 6. You have the option of making your second dose appointment onsite, right after you receive your first dose. If you would like to wait, an email will be sent to you with a link for making the second vaccine dosing appointment.