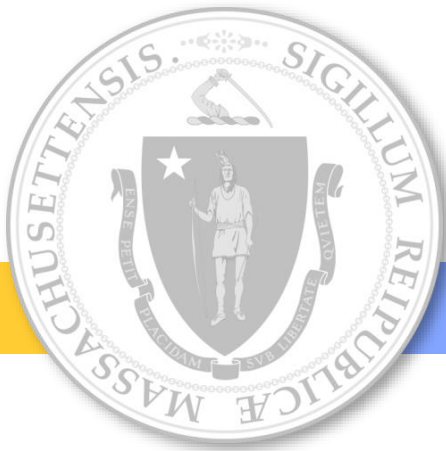


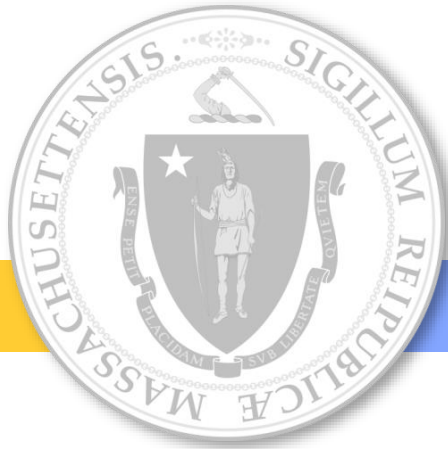
COVID-19 Vaccination Initiative for Public and Private Low Income and Affordable Senior Housing



MAPC Briefing for Municipalities

FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Welcome



Robin Lipson
Executive Office of Elder Affairs



Vaccine will go to those in shelters, prisons, and senior housing, Baker says

Phase 2

(February-March 2021)

Listed in order of priority:

- Group 1: [Individuals age 75+](#)

Not yet eligible

- Group 2: ~~Individuals age 65+, individuals with 2+ certain medical conditions~~ (only those conditions listed as *at increased risk* for severe illness), and/or [residents and staff of low income and affordable senior housing](#).

On January 13th, Governor Baker announced that residents and staff of public and private low income and affordable housing would be included in the Phase Two of the Vaccination Rollout



Definitions

Public and Private Low Income and Affordable Housing

- Any residential premises available for lease by older or disabled individuals which is financed or subsidized in whole or in part by state or federal housing programs established primarily to furnish housing rather than housing and personal services. Specifically, this includes:
 - Public housing properties designated primarily for older adults that are owned/operated by Local Housing Authorities. This includes those public housing properties owned by a Housing Authority but managed by a private company.
 - Privately owned rental properties designated for older adults that are financed in whole or part through resources made available from DHCD, MassHousing, or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and in which the majority of units are restricted to residents earning less than 80% of Area Median Income.
- Property must be “age restricted”
- Property can not be an ALR, CCRC, or licensed/certified by the state
 - Separate initiative for congregate care settings licensed/certified by the state



Definitions

Residents

- Household members currently on the lease for a rental unit in public and private low income and affordable senior housing
- Can include residents that are not seniors but reside in the building including younger disabled residents
- Minor household members are included but must be eligible per the vaccine manufacturer guidelines

Staff

- All persons, paid or unpaid, working or volunteering at each of the qualified housing locations, who have the potential for exposure to residents or to infectious materials, contaminated environmental surfaces, or contaminated air



Federal Pharmacy Partnership Program (FPPP)

- Initiative funded and administered by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to provide CVS/Walgreens vaccination clinics onsite in specific settings including:
 - Nursing Facilities
 - Rest Homes
 - Assisted Living Residences
 - Continuing Care Residential Communities
 - Housing funded through the HUD Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly program
- Per the CDC, other low-income senior housing was excluded from the FPPP
- Clinics began on 1/11 and continue into February/March
- MassHousing/CEDAC have been reaching out to designated properties to see if they need any assistance
- List of FPPP facilities/properties: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/long-term-care-facility-covid-19-vaccine-guidance#list-of-ltcf-participating-in-the-federal-pharmacy-partnership-program>

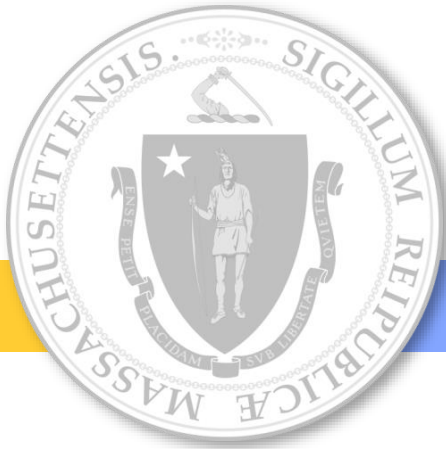


Those properties not enrolled in the Federal Pharmacy Partnership Program, should begin exploring options now to be ready to start vaccinating residents and staff once activated by the Governor

State agencies are prepared to assist with:

- Reviewing options
- Providing resources and templates
- Helping to identify potential local partners
- Assisting with vaccine allocation, if needed
- Answering questions and helping troubleshoot

DPH Work with Boards of Health



Jana Ferguson
Department of Public Health



Vaccine Deployment Options

- **Option #1:** Leverage Existing Pharmacy Partnerships or other Medical Provider Relationships
- **Option #2:** Contact their Local Board of Health (LBOH), if the Board is running clinics, to discuss capacity to provide an onsite clinic
- **Option #3:** Residents and staff may schedule an appointment at a provider location, pharmacy, or a Mass Vaccination Site



Vaccine Requests and Allocations

- Housers are currently looking for vaccinating agencies to partner with to organize an onsite clinic in senior affordable housing or an off site clinic in a mutually agreeable location
 - State is helping as needed
- **Any agency that agrees to partner with a senior affordable housing property to provide a vaccination clinic can request vaccines to support this clinic, as needed beyond their regular allocation**
 - Vaccinating agency must be in the MA COVID19 Vaccination program (MCVP)
 - Vaccinating agency submits the request for vaccine allocation to DPH through a weekly survey
 - Delay of ~7 days from request to receipt of vaccine
- No requests for vaccine for senior affordable housing will be approved until Group 2 of Phase 2 is activated by the Governor
- Housing agency must also submit online Planning Survey



Reporting – Planning Survey

- Brief online form to be completed as soon as decisions have been made about partner agency and approach being used
- Basic information about building
- Information about planned approach
 - Onsite clinic
 - Offsite clinic
 - Directing residents/staff to community vaccination sites
- Information about healthcare agency partner, estimated vaccine need, and type of vaccine to be used
- **This information is critical to ensuring that your needs are factored into the partner agency's vaccine allocation**

Considerations for Onsite Clinics



Hosting a clinic onsite may carry the following responsibilities for the housing owner/manager:

- Identify a local board of health, community health center, pharmacy, or other health care provider to partner with who is available to come onsite to offer the clinic for both doses – spaced at least 3 weeks apart
- Work with residents and staff to share information about the timing of clinics and to distribute available materials about the vaccine and what to expect
- Assist with gathering required paperwork from residents such as consent forms and other documentation required for the clinic
- Responsible for providing adequate space for immunizations and post-immunization observation
- Responsible for logistics, scheduling, and resident flow on the day of clinics, ensuring appropriate social distancing while people are waiting
 - Accommodating those residents that may be frail or unable to leave their apartment for medical reasons

Service coordinators, Councils on Aging, or ASAPs may be able to help



How Municipal Agencies Can Help

- Reach out to all senior affordable housing in your community
 - Public housing operated by local housing authorities
 - Private affordable housing
- Offer to help plan and coordinate
 - Use town buildings if there is no space in the housing property
 - Work together to transport residents to off site clinics
- Reach out to local healthcare agencies, if a partner is needed
 - Local community health centers
 - Local hospitals
- Help housing agency plan for clinics
 - Securing volunteers
 - Completing paperwork
- Encourage residents of senior affordable housing to get

COVID-19 Vaccinations for Senior Housing Settings

Vaccinations for residents living in and staff working in public and private low income and affordable housing for older people



<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccinations-for-senior-housing-settings>

- Resources
- Templates and Sample Documents
- FAQs
- Links to other useful information
- Point of Contact: SeniorHousingVaccine@mass.gov



Point of Contact:

SeniorHousingVaccine@mass.gov

State agencies are prepared to assist with:

- Reviewing options
- Providing resources and templates
- Helping to identify potential local partners
- Assisting with vaccine allocation, if needed
- Answering questions and helping troubleshoot