

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Tennessee to Begin COVID-19 Vaccination of Adults Age 65 and Older, Teachers** *Launch of Online Scheduling Improves Ease of Use*

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Tennessee will begin registering Tennesseans aged 65 and older and those in Phase 1b of the state’s [COVID-19 Vaccination Plan](#) COVID-19 for vaccinations on Feb. 22. Phase 1b includes staff members of kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade schools and child care facilities.

“Tennessee has administered more than one million doses of COVID-19 vaccine so far, and we’ve made substantial progress in protecting our senior citizens who are over age 70 through vaccination,” said Tennessee Health Commissioner Lisa Piercey, MD, MBA, FAAP. “While we remain focused on our seniors, who are the highest-risk population, we’re able to expand vaccine eligibility to these additional groups as our supply continues to grow each week.”

### **Online Scheduling for COVID-19 Vaccination**

TDH has launched a new online scheduling tool that allows users to book their appointment for COVID-19 vaccination at participating health department sites when they are eligible to do so. Tennesseans can access the system at [covid19.tn.gov](https://covid19.tn.gov) and select their county to schedule an appointment. Users will enter their demographic information and will then be able to choose a date and time for their vaccination appointment. Tennesseans who have already registered for a COVID-19 vaccination do not need to re-enter their information in the new system.

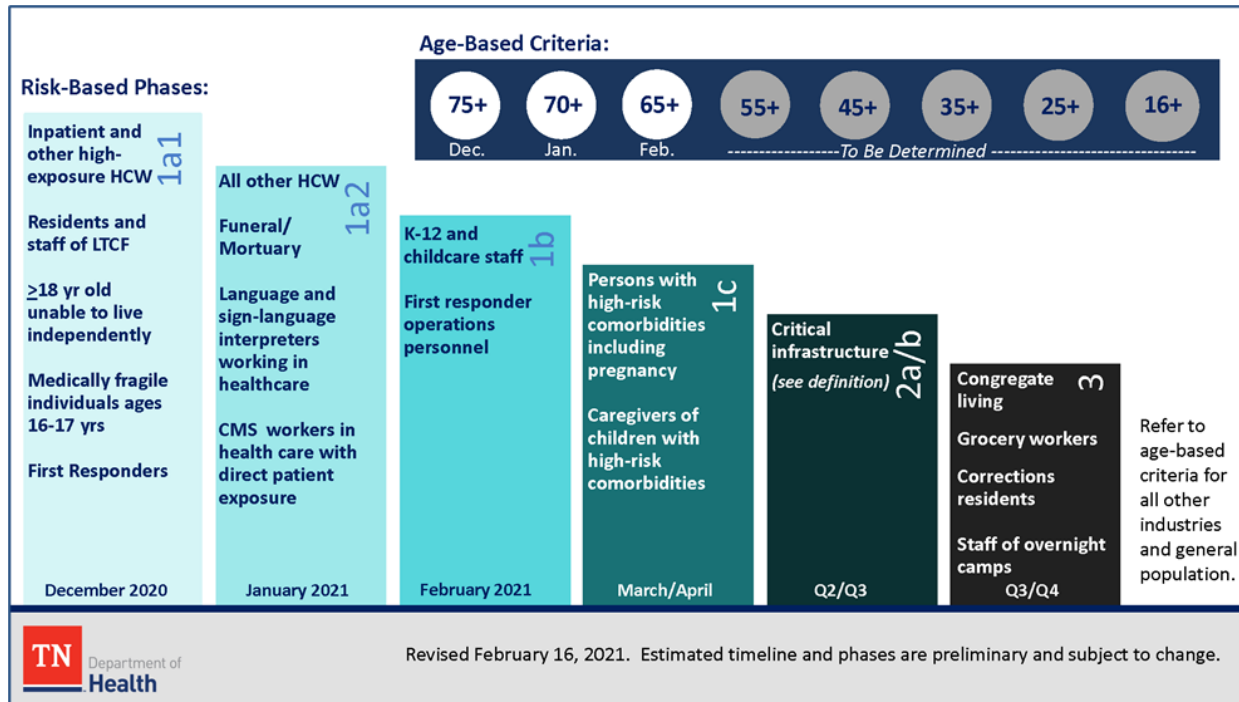
### **Updates to Tennessee’s COVID-19 Vaccination Plan**

TDH has updated the state’s COVID-19 Vaccination Plan by adding pregnant women to Phase 1c. Although pregnant women were not included in the COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials, they are at increased risk for hospitalization and death due to COVID-19. Pregnant women may choose to receive the COVID-19 vaccine as part of Phase 1c, along with others with high-risk health conditions. Pregnant women are encouraged to talk with their health care providers to help them make informed decisions about COVID-19 vaccination. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has guidance for pregnant women to help reduce their risk of COVID-19 at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/pregnancy-breastfeeding.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/pregnancy-breastfeeding.html).

Phase 1b of the state’s COVID-19 vaccination plan includes operations personnel of first responder agencies along with teachers and staff members of schools and child care facilities.

[Tennessee’s COVID-19 Vaccination Plan](#) prioritizes those most at risk of illness and death from COVID-19. Tennessee will continue to move through phases of the state’s COVID-19 vaccination plan as vaccine supplies increase.

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Tennesseans can find information on the phases eligible for vaccination in their county and, when eligible, register for vaccination through their county health department at <https://covid19.tn.gov/covid-19-vaccines/county-vaccine-information/>. Due to their independent operations and larger populations, Tennessee’s metropolitan counties may have different instructions, so residents in these areas should check with local authorities about their plans.

TDH reminds all Tennesseans that in addition to vaccination, wearing a face mask, maintaining social distance and getting tested when exposed or sick are critical to controlling the pandemic.

Tennessee’s COVID-19 Vaccination Plan is available online at [www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/COVID-19\\_Vaccination\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/COVID-19_Vaccination_Plan.pdf). Find answers to frequently asked questions about COVID-19 vaccination at <https://covid19.tn.gov/data/faqs/>.

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