

FEMA's Role in COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

In alignment with [President Biden's plan to respond to COVID-19](#), FEMA will work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other federal agencies and coordinate with state, tribal and territorial authorities and private sector partners and others to assist, augment and expedite vaccinations in the United States.

Key Messages

- At the President's direction, FEMA has increased its support to states, tribes and territories for vaccination sites. FEMA has already obligated more than **\$1.7 billion** to states, tribes and territories, and Washington, D.C. for vaccination sites. As the number of states with obligations increases, we will work alongside other federal agencies to provide federal support for critical staffing, supplies and other shortfalls that can help get more Americans vaccinated.
- FEMA is supporting vaccination sites by providing expedited financial assistance, federal equipment and supplies, and deploying federal personnel to states, tribes, territories and other eligible applicants for vaccination efforts. This assistance is processed when a request is submitted.
- FEMA has launched a [Vaccine Support page](#) to keep the public informed the agency's support of the White House COVID-19 Response Plan and information on how to get vaccinated.

Federal Funding to Accelerate Vaccine Efforts

- FEMA, in accordance with President Biden's Jan. 21 Memorandum, will provide reimbursement to states, local, tribal and territorial governments and the District of Columbia for the use of their National Guard to respond to COVID-19 and other assistance, which may include support to vaccination distribution and administration, at a 100% cost share until Sept. 30, 2021.
- FEMA is supporting COVID-19 vaccine distribution by providing reimbursement to governments for costs associated with vaccine distribution and administration. Prior to the executive orders to expand vaccination efforts, FEMA obligated more than \$57.5 billion towards COVID-19 response efforts to support our state, tribal and territorial partners during this pandemic.
- As of Jan. 31, the Disaster Relief Fund balance is more than \$13 billion. These funds will support continued response to COVID-19, including expanded vaccination efforts across the country by providing financial



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assistance to governments and other eligible applicants for vaccination efforts as well as personal protective equipment, alternative care sites and durable medical equipment.

- Providing funding to states, tribes and territories is an Administration priority. After a request is submitted and validated, FEMA expedites reimbursement for eligible emergency work projects to ensure resources are available to support vaccine distribution and administration.
- As of Jan. 31, FEMA has provided more than **\$1.7 billion** to states, territories and tribes for expenses related to COVID-19 vaccination at 100% federal cost share. In the last 48 hours, the following obligations over \$1 million were made:
 - \$51.6 million to Alabama.
 - \$5.9 million to California.
 - \$245 million to Florida.
 - \$104.6 million to Georgia.
 - \$46.9 million to Kentucky.
 - \$15 million to Minnesota.
 - \$32 million to Mississippi.
 - \$103 million to North Carolina.
 - \$2.5 million to South Carolina.
 - \$68.5 million to Tennessee.
 - \$3.2 million to Virginia.
 - \$47 million to Wisconsin.
- These funds cover emergency protective measures to include:
 - Supplies and commodities needed to safely store and administer the vaccine.
 - Transportation support and reasonable, necessary security for refrigerated trucks and support for leasing space to store and/or administer vaccines including utilities, maintenance and security.
 - Medical and support staff including onsite infection control measures, personal protective equipment for staff, cloth face coverings for patients, temperature scanners, physical barriers and disinfection of the facility in accordance with CDC guidance.
 - Dissemination of public information and communication regarding vaccinations.

- The costs of purchasing the vaccine and support kits are not covered by these obligations and do not duplicate any HHS funding. COVID-19 Vaccines and support kits are provided to state, tribal and territorial governments at no cost by the federal government.
- The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 appropriates \$2 billion to FEMA to provide financial assistance to individuals and households for COVID-19-related funeral expenses at a 100% federal cost.
 - The appropriation covers eligible funeral expenses incurred through Dec. 31, 2020.
 - FEMA is reviewing the legislation and evaluating potential options for implementation.

Federal Coordination to Identify and Fill Resource Gaps

- FEMA is working closely with state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) governments to fill gaps that local health officials have identified. Additionally, SLTT emergency managers are working closely with appropriate health officials.
- FEMA will work with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and other federal agencies to ensure a coordinated approach to using [Defense Production Act](#) authorities wherever necessary so private sector companies can increase vaccine supply and spur vaccine manufacturing.
- FEMA released "[FEMA COVID-19 Vaccination Planning FAQ](#)," a document to help assist governments with their vaccine distribution efforts and reimbursements for associated costs.

FEMA and Other Federal Agencies Are Supporting Vaccine Sites

- FEMA, through its National Response Coordination Center and 10 regional offices across the nation, is coordinating with other federal agencies to meet state, tribal and territory needs. FEMA is providing support to established vaccination locations and support National Guard operations to expand access to vaccines.
- FEMA is committed to ensuring every American who wants a vaccine can get one. To reach underserved and rural communities, FEMA and its federal partners, are determining and prioritizing site locations to ensure equitable access. This includes coordination efforts to establish and support fixed facilities and establishing pop-up or temporary vaccination sites and mobile vaccination clinics.
- FEMA has deployed more than 300 staff to 10 states and one territory to support vaccination centers with personnel and technical assistance. Additional staff across the country are supporting virtually.
- As of Jan. 31, 89 federally supported sites are operational across the country.
- The U.S. National Guard Bureau is providing 844 vaccinators, administrative and logistics support to 303 vaccines sites in 40 states.
- The United States Coast Guard has deployed 18 reservists to support Oklahoma.

Vaccine Site Classifications

Vaccine site types, locations and capacity are decided at the state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) government level.

Site Capacity

- Depending on need determined at the SLTT level, there are a variety of site types and sizes available to support vaccine efforts.
 - Type 1 can administer 6,000 vaccinations a day.
 - Type 2 can administer 3,000 vaccinations a day.
 - Type 3 can administer 1,000 vaccinations a day.
 - Type 4 can administer 250 vaccinations a day.
 - Type 5 Mobile/Pop-up can administer 250 vaccinations a day.

Federal Support Types

- Federal vaccine site support enables a new site to open, or an existing site to remain open. Sites that close between the first and second dose are counted as one federally supported site.
- A federally supported site provides support from one or more of the following federal resources: funding, personnel, and/or materiel. There are different levels of federal support available to new or existing state, local, tribal or territorial (SLTT) vaccine sites:
 - Completely SLTT Run: no federal support.
 - SLTT Run/Federally Funded: FEMA pays for select resources.
 - SLTT Run/Federal Support Personnel: federal personnel provide support to operations.
 - SLTT Run/Federal Support Equipment: provides the use of federal equipment or resources to include communications, site support and vehicles.
 - Federally Run and Supported Site: fully staffed, equipped and funded by the federal government, but uses SLTT personnel/patient management systems.

Vaccine Guidance

- As of Jan. 30, CDC has administered more than 29.5 million vaccine doses. More than 49.9 million vaccine doses have been distributed to locations across the country.

- The [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#) amended the [PREP Act](#) to add additional categories of qualified persons authorized to prescribe, dispense, and administer COVID-19 vaccines authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- Because the supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States is limited, CDC is providing recommendations to federal, state, and local governments about [who should be vaccinated first](#). CDC's recommendations are based on those of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, an independent panel of medical and health experts.
- FEMA is working with the [Ad Council](#) to [encourage hesitant or underrepresented Americans to get vaccinated](#). This research-driven public education campaign provides federal, non-profit, and medical stakeholders with insights and communications strategies to tailor communications to reach diverse audiences.
- Each state has its own plan for deciding which groups of people will be vaccinated first. Contact your [state health department](#) for more information on its plan for COVID-19 vaccination.
- The vaccine is not a perfect fix. Everyone should continue to [practice other precautions](#) like wearing a mask, social distancing, handwashing and other hygiene measures until public health officials say otherwise.

Contact Us

If you have any questions, please contact FEMA Office of External Affairs:

- Congressional Affairs at (202) 646-4500 or at FEMA-Congressional-Affairs@fema.dhs.gov
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Also, follow Acting Administrator Bob Fenton on Twitter [@FEMA_Fenton](#).

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