

## MESSAGE MAP - COVID Vaccine Availability

November 13, 2020

COVID-19 vaccines are making their way through trials and approvals to ensure they are safe. The national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices is creating a series of tiered recommendations for who should receive vaccine first since there will not immediately be enough doses for everyone. We will follow these priority tiers in Dane County and are working with partners to plan for equitable, ethical, and transparent distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.

### Key Messages

### Supporting Messages

**COVID-19 vaccines are making their way through trials and approvals to ensure they are safe.**

- There are plans for a safe COVID-19 vaccine to be completed by the end of 2020.
- It's normal to feel some hesitancy about a new vaccine. This process is happening very fast, but there are [steps in place](#) to make sure the vaccine is safe.
- There are several clinical trials in place to evaluate different vaccines.
- Some clinical trials have just begun to enroll children. The vaccine will likely not be licensed for children for some time since these trials are still underway.

**Once COVID-19 vaccines are approved for use, they will be provided to the public in priority tiers.**

- Once a COVID-19 vaccine is available, there will not be enough doses right away to vaccinate everyone. The national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices is creating a series of tiered recommendations for who should receive vaccine first.
- We will work with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and follow these priority tiers. Vaccine will not be widely available until later in 2021, at the earliest.
- We are working with our local healthcare and community partners to plan for equitable, ethical, and transparent distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.
- We will work with our partners in specific sectors, such as schools, as vaccine becomes available to them.

**Even with a COVID-19 vaccine available, life cannot go back to "normal" right away.**

- COVID-19 vaccines, when available, will be given in stages to the public. During this time, everyone needs to continue to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding close contact, crowds, and confined spaces with little ventilation.
- There's still a lot we're still learning about the vaccine, like

if multiple doses will be required and how effective it is at preventing illness long-term. The vaccine will not be a silver bullet that eliminates COVID-19 from our lives completely.

- Once the vaccine is available broadly, people will still need to take all the necessary precautions to prevent getting or spreading COVID-19, like staying home when you're sick and washing your hands often. The combination of a vaccine and prevention measures will help us in our eventual return to normal.

**Info Sources:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/8-things.html>