



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**This is an official  
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) Alert**

**MESSAGE ID:** MSHAN-20210105-00492-ALT (Health Alert)  
**RECIPIENTS:** All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, and  
Healthcare Providers – Statewide  
Tuesday, January 5, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout to Persons Aged 75  
Years and Older

Dear Colleagues,

- Mississippi is currently in Phase 1a for COVID-19 vaccine priorities targeting all healthcare personnel and all long-term care residents.
- **Beginning January 6, 2021, persons aged 75 years and older will also be eligible for COVID-19 vaccination.**
- **Starting January 6, 2021, persons 75 years of age and older will be able to schedule appointments at MSDH COVID-19 vaccination clinics throughout the state.**
  - Healthcare personnel may also access vaccine through the MSDH COVID-19 vaccination clinics throughout the state.
  - Appointments are required for both persons  $\geq 75$  years and healthcare personnel and can be made at [COVID-19 Vaccine Patient Screening - UMMC COVID Scheduling \(umc.edu\)](https://umc.edu)
- Physicians and Healthcare Settings in the state that are interested in vaccinating persons  $\geq 75$  years and other priority groups moving forward **MUST** enroll as a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider to receive COVID-19 vaccine to administer (See the MSDH website for resources for COVID-19 vaccine providers and the Provider Agreement at [https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/\\_static/14,0,71,975.html](https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,71,975.html))
- Enrolled providers are receiving a separate communication to determine additional vaccine doses needed to target these priority groups to broaden the availability throughout the state.
- Enrolled providers that have already received COVID-19 vaccine doses to target healthcare personnel may utilize these doses for those individuals 75 years and older.
- Facilities planning to vaccinate persons aged 75 and older and other priority groups moving forward will be listed on the Mississippi State Department of Health website.

See the MSDH website for resources for COVID-19 vaccine providers and the Provider Agreement at [https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/\\_static/14,0,71,975.html](https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,71,975.html). We encourage you to read the instructions and FAQs first; this will assist greatly in the completion of the agreement. If you have any questions, feel free to email [covid19vaccine@msdh.ms.gov](mailto:covid19vaccine@msdh.ms.gov) or call the Immunization Office at 601- 576-7751.

Regards,

Paul Byers, MD  
State Epidemiologist



***Alerting Message Specification Settings***

<b>Originating Agency:</b>	Mississippi State Department of Health
<b>Alerting Program:</b>	MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
<b>Message Identifier:</b>	MSHAN-20210105-00492-ALT
<b>Program (HAN) Type:</b>	Health Alert
<b>Status (Type):</b>	Actual ( )
<b>Message Type:</b>	Alert
<b>Reference:</b>	MSHAN-00492
<b>Severity:</b>	Unknown
<b>Acknowledgement:</b>	No
<b>Sensitive:</b>	Not Sensitive
<b>Message Expiration:</b>	Undetermined
<b>Urgency:</b>	Undetermined
<b>Delivery Time:</b>	600 minutes

**Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings**

<b>Originating Agency:</b>	A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.
<b>Alerting Program:</b>	The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.
<b>Message Identifier:</b>	A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT ( <b>ALT=Health Alert</b> , <b>ADV=Health Advisory</b> , <b>UPD=Health Update</b> , <b>MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service</b> )).
<b>Program (HAN) Type:</b>	Categories of Health Alert Messages.
<b>Health Alert:</b>	Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
<b>Health Advisory:</b>	Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
<b>Health Update:</b>	Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.
<b>Health Info Service:</b>	Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.
<b>Status (Type):</b>	
Actual:	Communication or alert refers to a live event
Exercise:	Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
Test:	Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded



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**Message Type:**

Alert: Indicates an original Alert  
Update: Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded  
Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled  
Error: Indicates prior alert has been retracted

**Reference:** For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

**Severity:**

Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property  
Severe: Significant threat to life or property  
Moderate: Possible threat to life or property  
Minor: Minimal threat to life or property  
Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

**Acknowledgement:** Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

**Sensitive:**

Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content  
Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

**Message Expiration:** Undetermined.

**Urgency:** Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

**Delivery Time:** Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).