



Shawnee County Health Department

**Shawnee County Health Department**  
Teresa Fisher, Interim Director  
2600 SW East Circle Dr., Topeka, KS 66606  
Ph. 785.251.5600 | Fax 785.251.5696  
[www.shawneehealth.org](http://www.shawneehealth.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
2/25/2021

**CONTACT: Craig Barnes**  
Division Manager/PIO  
Office (785) 251-5612  
Mobile (785) 806-6310

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### **Shawnee County COVID-19 Vaccine Update – 2/25/2021**

**Topeka, Kan.** – Shawnee County Health Officer, Dr. Erin Locke, provided a COVID-19 vaccination update to the Shawnee County Board of County Commissioners this morning on behalf of the Shawnee County Health Department (SCHD) and Shawnee County Vaccine Collaborative.

Shawnee County continues to receive 2,340 doses (prime) of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine each week from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). The Collaborative is hopeful that these allocations from KDHE will increase in coming weeks, which in turn will be allowing for more individuals to get vaccinated.

Additionally, the number of locations that an individual can receive a vaccination has increased in recent weeks to include local pharmacies that are a part of the Federal Pharmacy Partnership program. GraceMed, the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Shawnee County, is also expected to begin receiving 300 doses of additional vaccine weekly beginning the week of March 8<sup>th</sup> from the Federal FQHC Partnership. Both GraceMed and the local pharmacies are receiving allocations directly from the federal government; and these doses will be in addition to any doses Shawnee County receives from KDHE.

Shawnee County is currently vaccinating in Phase 2a, which includes vaccinations of individuals aged 65 and older. Shawnee County has had over 18,000 individuals aged 65 and older that have already been vaccinated in this phase.

Phase 2a also includes K-12 faculty and staff and Shawnee County has received an additional allocation from KDHE earmarked specifically for this population. Shawnee County anticipates interested K-12 faculty and staff to be completed by the end of the week.

Shawnee County plans to begin vaccinating childcare and mass transportation workers next week.

As Shawnee County continues to move forward in Phase 2a, the SCHD is actively working to ensure vaccines are available to those aged 65 and older, including those who have barriers to receiving the vaccine. Numerous community partnerships have been promoted to assist individuals in completing the [Shawnee County COVID-19 Interest Survey](#) including pop-up



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Shawnee County Health Department

---

**Shawnee County Health Department**  
Teresa Fisher, Interim Director  
2600 SW East Circle Dr., Topeka, KS 66606  
Ph. 785.251.5600 | Fax 785.251.5696  
[www.shawneehealth.org](http://www.shawneehealth.org)

events across the community. Individuals may continue to call the SCHD at 785.251.4949 for assistance in completing the interest survey.

The Collaborative understands that transportation continues to be a barrier to receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. The Shawnee County COVID-19 Response team has already completed several site audits of locations to hold vaccine clinic outreach locations with more scheduled throughout this week and the team is working to prioritize locations that are in areas of the Shawnee County with the highest need.

The SCHD is proactively collecting a list of our homebound residents and are developing plans with community partners to vaccinate these individuals in their homes.

Questions can be emailed to [CovidVaccine@snco.us](mailto:CovidVaccine@snco.us).

###

*Shawnee County Health Department is committed to working in partnership with our community to promote and protect the optimal health of all people by bridging gaps to eliminate health inequities, respecting the diversity of our community, through adaptive and innovative processes.*

**Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube**