



**From the Office of Senator Maria Collett:**

**COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution FAQs**

*This document provides answers to general questions related to COVID-19 vaccine distribution here in Pennsylvania.*

*If you would like a step-by-step guide for how to access the sign-up pages for vaccine providers in the Pennsylvania region, please check out our “Vaccine Appointment Tips” documents. There are two versions – one with links to websites and one with primarily text and pictures.*

*Also, please note that the City of Philadelphia’s health department is fully separate from the PA Department of Health (DOH) for COVID-19 vaccine distribution purposes. Philadelphia has its own unique phase guidelines to which vaccine providers in Philadelphia must adhere.*

*If you need any additional assistance or information regarding COVID-19 vaccine distribution, please contact our office. Call us at 215-368-1429. E-mail us at [senatorcollett@pasenate.com](mailto:senatorcollett@pasenate.com).*

- 1. The decentralized nature of this process is extremely confusing. I have been on the computer/phone for hours searching for a vaccine appointment with various pharmacies. Why doesn’t Pennsylvania have a centralized registration system – i.e., a one-stop shop for signing up for the vaccine?**

Senator Collett shares your frustrations, which is why she is introducing [a bill](#) that will institute a centralized COVID-19 vaccine registration system here in Pennsylvania. Providers will then register to access this list and give appointment priority to those signed up on it. This is an important step toward making our vaccine distribution process in Pennsylvania easier, quicker and more equitable.

- 2. But in the meantime, what am I supposed to do? I want to get the vaccine ASAP!**

The first thing you should do is pre-register with your county.

For step-by-step guides on how to pre-register with your county, check out our “Step-by-Step Guide to Sign Up for the COVID-19 Vaccine” document.



The link to pre-register for Phase 1A with Montgomery County can be found [here](#). The link to pre-register for Phase 1A with Bucks County can be found [here](#).

Pending vaccine supply levels, wait times with the counties can last from 6 to 12 weeks or more.

After pre-registering with your county, we encourage you to reach out to other vaccine providers, like pharmacies, hospitals and possibly your health care provider. Unfortunately, in the absence of a centralized registration system, you must register with each individual location if you wish to be considered for an appointment with that particular COVID-19 vaccine provider. For step-by-step guides on how to schedule appointments with individual pharmacies, check out our “Step-by-Step Guide to Sign Up for the COVID-19 Vaccine” document. For specific tips on how to successfully secure appointments with area pharmacies, please see our separate “COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Tips” document.

You can also reach out to health care providers who have publicly available COVID-19 vaccine pre-registration pages for 1A qualifiers. For example, check out [the pre-registration page](#) of the St. Mary Medical Center in Bucks County.

Also, some constituents have had luck getting their vaccines a little further away from home via the St. Luke’s health network in the Allentown area. You can pre-register [here](#) with St. Luke’s.

### **3. Do you have any tips for getting an appointment from a pharmacy?**

For tips on securing appointments with various vaccine providers in the southeastern Pennsylvania region, please see our “COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Tips” document.

### **4. I’m in Phase 1A, and don’t have access to the internet or a computer. Can I pre-register over the phone?**

Yes – Bucks County pre-registration is available over the phone at 215-345-3318 or 1-800-383-0371.

Starting the week of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, you can pre-register over the phone with Montgomery County by calling the county’s COVID hotline at 833-875-3967.

### **5. I’m a veteran. Can I get the vaccine from the VA?**

Yes – [According to the VA](#), “If you’re eligible to get a vaccine, your VA health care team will contact you.”

The Saracini VA Clinic in Horsham held vaccine clinics in early February, and pending supply, may be holding vaccine clinics in the future. They can be reached at 215-823-4014 or at 215-823-6050, option #5.

### **6. I got an appointment link from my County, but managed to get a vaccine elsewhere. Can I give my appointment to someone else?**

No – appointment links are only for the individuals who receive them. Sharing appointment links has created serious logistical issues for vaccine providers. It slows down the process for everyone. **Please do not share appointment links.**



**7. I heard that the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) recently announced that they had shortages of second shots of Moderna vaccine. Does this mean my second shot is in danger?**

The PA DOH has indeed announced unexpected shortages of Moderna second shot doses. However, the DOH has assured providers that they will have sufficient second dose supplies to administer all second doses within the CDC-recommend 42-day time frame.

There is a chance that your second dose appointment will be rescheduled/delayed by 1 -2 weeks. Be on the lookout for potential email updates from your provider.

**8. I got scheduled for my vaccine appointment! Now what? Is there anything else I need to know? How should I prepare?**

Prior to heading to your appointment, make sure you check out [this pre-vaccine appointment information page](#) from the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Also, if you're receiving your vaccine from Montgomery County, be sure to have your appointment confirmation email with you at your appointment, which contains your individualized token number.

Wherever you get your first shot, you should schedule the date, time, and location of your second shot at your first shot appointment.

