

MADERA COUNTY PUBLIC INFORMATION TEAM

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Madera County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) Creates a Pathway for Upcoming Vaccine Eligibility Expansions, Asks for Help from Local Employers

In anticipation of expansions in vaccine eligibility from the state, MCDPH is looking to prepare a way to deliver those vaccines.

"The bottom line is, we want to prevent hospitalizations and death," says Director Sara Bosse. "We are prioritizing those most at risk for hospitalization and death and creating a pathway for them to get the vaccine." That pathway comes in the form of employer surveys and physician referrals.

Employer surveys will help assess how many people will be eligible under the new state guidelines as well as number of people interested in vaccination. MCDPH is asking Madera County food and agriculture, education, childcare, and emergency services employers to complete an online survey at www.maderacounty.com/covid19vaccine.

The eligibility expansion represents a very large portion of Madera County. Due to vaccine scarcity, Madera County work with community partners and employers to prioritize those most at risk:

- General population age 65 and up
- Education and childcare, emergency services, and food & agriculture workers who are age 50 or older
- Patients with high risk medical conditions

Patients with high risk medical conditions can contact their physician to obtain a referral for the vaccine. Those referral forms have been sent to Madera County physicians via Health Alert. Electronic copies can also be requested directly from MCDPH.

Director Sara Bosse says, "Once the necessary conversions are completed in the new state vaccine registration system, 'MyTurn,' we will be ready to start implementing this expansion."

Visit <u>www.maderacounty.com/covid19vaccine</u> for more information and regular updates. For questions, please utilize the <u>community feedback form</u> or call Madera County 311.

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