

**Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
April 16, 2021**



Sign-up for Vaccine Appointments for Vermonters Age 16-18 Starts Tomorrow!

At his press conference today, the Governor announced that registration for vaccine appointments for Vermonters age 16-18 starts tomorrow at 10 a.m. and registration for all Vermonters age 16+ starts on Monday, April 19 at 6 a.m.

Going online to healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine is the fastest way to make an appointment, and there are enough slots at sites throughout Vermont for everyone who is eligible.

Click on the “Make an appointment” button to use the Health Department registration system. If you prefer to make your COVID-19 vaccine appointment through a participating pharmacy, you can find links on the same page to Kinney Drugs, CVS and Walgreens.

Pro tip: Create an Account Early!

You will need to create an account in our online system first, and then log in to schedule your appointment. Even if you’re not currently eligible to get a vaccine, you can set up an account ahead of time. **To avoid unnecessary delay (and stress), create your account online at healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine before it’s time for you to register for a vaccination appointment!**

You will need an email address to create an account, and can use the same address for more than one person. Note to parents and guardians: adding dependents to your existing account is easy!

If you already have an account because you were tested for COVID-19 through a Health Department site, you need to use the same account information to schedule an appointment to

get a vaccine. The online system will not allow you to create a new account if you use an email address that is already in the system.

Anyone who is unable to make their appointment online, or who needs to speak with someone in a language other than English can call 855-722-7878.

Johnson & Johnson vaccine clinics cancelled through Friday, April 23

State officials announced Thursday that Vermont will follow the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and extend the pause on the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine for an additional week. The federal pause is in place to allow the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices the time it needs to gather more data about reported side effects. The committee will meet again next week.

This means that all Vermont Johnson & Johnson appointments will be cancelled through Friday, April 23. Anyone who had an appointment cancelled through the state registration system should call 855-722-7878. The Health Department is working hard to open as many additional appointments as possible for the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines and expects everyone impacted by this pause will be able to get an appointment by the end of April.

Approximately 5,800 Vermont appointments were impacted by the newly extended pause (April 13 through April 23). As soon as the CDC made its announcement on Tuesday, the department began working to proactively reach out to everyone who had an appointment to receive the J&J vaccine. The majority of these have been addressed in some way, including by many people making their own scheduling changes online or by contacting our Vaccine Call Center.

People who made appointments with CVS or Walgreens should follow the pharmacies' instructions about rescheduling. Anyone who prefers to make a new appointment through the state registration system can call the Health Department at 855-722-7878. Please be sure you have only one appointment scheduled.

All two-dose (Pfizer and Moderna) vaccine appointments will continue as previously scheduled.

The CDC and the Food & Drug Administration recommended the pause on Tuesday, after six cases were reported in the U.S. of a rare and severe type of blood clot in individuals who had received the J&J vaccine. The pause will also allow time for health care providers to receive and understand guidance and information on how to recognize and treat such patients appropriately, and to report any further severe events they may be seeing in people who have received the J&J vaccine.

"We know it may be difficult to hear about more uncertainty right now, but this is science at work," said Health Commissioner Mark Levine, MD. "This extreme caution is being taken to

make sure we have all the information needed as we move forward in our vaccination efforts safely.”

[Read the press release.](#)

Who are those hard-working public health staff working to respond to the pandemic? Meet them!

In January 2020, the Health Department activated its Health Operations Center to address an emerging concern that would become the global COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, hundreds of Health staff — with support from our state and community partners — have been working tirelessly behind the scenes to keep Vermonters safe, supported, and informed.

Visit our [newest web page](#) to meet some of the state’s public health heroes who have shown exemplary service to their teams and Vermonters during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are many, many more staff members who have quietly given everything they have to this response every day. We wish we could recognize them all!

To all Vermonters from your Health Department staff – thank you for the sacrifices you have made this past year. We here for you and in this with you.