



Office of
Representative Carole Fiola
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

January 29, 2021

My office has received numerous calls and inquiries regarding vaccination appointments and availability. Below are answers to some of those questions. Please know that we are aware of the issues facing us and that myself and members of our communities are working for equitable accessibility for our community. If you still have questions, please email Carole.Fiola@mahouse.gov or call 617-722-2430.

PLEASE NOTE, IT MAY TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS TO GET AN APPOINTMENT AT A LOCATION NEAR YOU.

1. **Who is eligible?** All of those in Phase 1 are now eligible. Starting Monday, February 1, those 75 and older will be eligible. No one else in Phase 2 is eligible yet. 65 and older and those with comorbidities will be next in Phase 2 and this will be announced publicly. To see who is in each Phase go to Mass.gov/covidvaccine.

2. **Why can't I get an appointment?** Two issues are creating obstacles: supply and locations. Supplies are limited. As more become eligible, the number of appointments available are based on how many vaccines are available. While numerous sites are expected to be open in Fall River and the entire South Coast region soon, currently there are not enough doses to be distributed to all yet. This is a roll out. We are working to ensure that the South Coast receives equitable distribution of the state's vaccines.

3. **Is there another option to book an appointment other than online?** We know there are obstacles facing seniors being able to book appointments online. A call-in line is coming soon and we will promote it. Your Council on Aging office may be able to assist you with the scheduling process. **Bristol Elders (508) 675-2101, Fall River COA 508-324-2401, and Freetown COA 508-763-9557.** If you cannot leave your home for the vaccine, additional information will be available shortly.