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## **NEWS RELEASE**

Media Contact: Michelle Corson, 661-868-0288

### **Kern County Residents 65 and Older Now Eligible for COVID-19 Vaccination**

Earlier today, California Department of Public Health announced that individuals 65 or older are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccines. Effective immediately, all residents age 65 years and older are now able to be vaccinated in Kern County.

California's COVID-19 Vaccine Plan is prioritized based on high risk groups that are defined in several phases as well as tiers within those phases.

Those in Phase 1a, healthcare workers and long-term care residents, remain the highest priority to receive vaccines according to the state and are currently eligible for vaccination in Kern County.

Safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines are one of the most important interventions to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Public Health is working with state and local partners to be transparent, careful, and above all, equitable in efforts to provide a COVID-19 vaccine to everyone who needs and requests vaccination.

Residents are urged to continue practicing healthy habits such as hand washing, physical distancing and wearing a face covering when in public.

For more information, visit our website at <https://kernpublichealth.com/coronavirus-vaccine/> for current vaccination information and resources. Additionally, an interactive map is available identifying community providers who are currently offering vaccinations.

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