

January 6, 2021

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Kern County Residents in Phase 1a – Tier 2 Now Eligible for COVID-19 Vaccination**

Effective immediately, priority groups within Tier 2 of Phase 1a of the COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule are now able to be vaccinated in Kern County. Residents that fall within Phase 1a – Tier 1 also remain eligible for vaccination as Kern progresses through the phases and tiers.

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. Kern County has been allocated a sufficient vaccine supply to offer vaccination to eligible persons in Phase 1a – Tier 1, and is now able to offer vaccination to persons in Phase 1a – Tier 2.

The following priority groups are eligible in Phase 1a – Tier 2:

- Intermediate care facilities for persons who need non-continuous nursing supervision and supportive care
- Home health care and in-home supportive services
- Community health workers, including promotoras
- Public health field staff
- Primary care clinics, including federally qualified health centers, rural health centers, correctional facility clinics, and urgent care clinics

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 now available identifying community providers who are currently offering vaccinations.

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