

Enrolled COVID-19 Vaccine Provider:

As a part of Ohio's Phase 1B vaccinations, the group becoming eligible beginning the week of Feb. 15 with specific qualifying medical conditions will be permitted to be vaccinated by the provider of their choice. As we open up vaccinations to this population, we ask that providers help educate the public about eligibility during this phase, and proactively identify this population from existing patients when possible, while also making vaccine available to those who self-identify as having one of the conditions listed below (or [available online](#)).

Public education about qualifying medical conditions

To help educate the public about which conditions qualify for vaccination, the [list of qualifying conditions](#) below should be published on your websites and be used to confirm (verbally or using electronic or paper form) that a patient meets the eligibility requirement.

Phase 1B: Ohioans born with or who have early childhood conditions that are carried into adulthood, which put them at a higher risk for adverse outcomes due to COVID-19.

We are including the following group of Ohioans, even though they are not age 65 or older, because they were born with or developed in childhood a severe condition that puts them at very high risk for dying from COVID-19. The qualifying conditions are:

- Sickle cell anemia.
- Down syndrome.
- Cystic fibrosis.
- Muscular dystrophy.
- Cerebral palsy.
- Spina bifida.
- People born with severe heart defects, requiring regular specialized medical care.
- People with severe type 1 diabetes, who have been hospitalized for this in the past year.
- Phenylketonuria (PKU), Tay-Sachs, and other rare, inherited metabolic disorders.
- Epilepsy with continuing seizures; hydrocephaly; microcephaly, and other severe neurological disorders.
- Turner syndrome, fragile X syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, and other severe genetic disorders.
- People with severe asthma, who have been hospitalized for this in the past year.
- Alpha and beta thalassemia.
- Solid organ transplant candidates and recipients.

Expectations for confirming eligibility

The State of Ohio is not requiring any additional documentation or proof of eligibility; however, providers may develop their own screening and monitoring procedures to evaluate eligibility.

Patients must be asked to confirm that they have one of the qualifying conditions, but do not need to name the specific condition.

Requests for vaccine provider partners:

- **Hospital providers:** We are asking hospitals to proactively reach out to patients hospitalized in the past year for a qualifying condition to schedule these patients for vaccination. If an individual who has been hospitalized in the past year for the qualifying condition chooses to get vaccinated at a local health department (LHD) or pharmacy, that individual will be asked to confirm that he/she has one of the conditions listed, but does not need to name the specific condition.

- **Data collection:** Providers will not be required to collect or submit additional forms; however, patients falling into this group will be identified by providers submitting [TP/O Checklist data](#). By entering a patient with the TP/O of “Individuals with Congenital Disorders or Early in Life Conditions that Carried into Adulthood without IDD (TPV24),” providers confirm that they have verified the eligibility of that patient through a review of electronic health record or by verbal confirmation.

Suggested scripts for confirmation of eligibility

Vaccine providers who elect to use a checkbox on your websites or on any of your own forms or documents to confirm eligibility should ask patients only to confirm that they have a condition making them eligible, not which specific condition they have.

Sample website or paper confirmation checkbox

Below you will find suggested confirmation language that you could use on your websites or forms to confirm before vaccination.

Phase 1B: Ohioans born with or who have early childhood conditions that are carried into adulthood, which put them at higher risk for adverse outcomes due to COVID-19.

The following group of Ohioans, even though they are not age 65 or older, are eligible because they were born with or developed in childhood a severe condition that puts them at very high risk for dying from COVID-19.

The qualifying conditions are:

- Sickle cell anemia.
- Down syndrome.
- Cystic fibrosis.
- Muscular dystrophy.
- Cerebral palsy.
- Spina bifida.
- People born with severe heart defects, requiring regular specialized medical care.
- People with severe type 1 diabetes, who have been hospitalized for this condition in the past year.
- Phenylketonuria (PKU), Tay-Sachs, and other rare, inherited metabolic disorders.
- Epilepsy with continuing seizures; hydrocephaly; microcephaly, and other severe neurological disorders.
- Turner syndrome, fragile X syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, and other severe genetic disorders.
- People with severe asthma, who have been hospitalized for this condition in the past year.
- Alpha and beta thalassemia.
- Solid organ transplant candidates and recipients.

✓ I confirm that I have **one of the medical conditions listed above**, and I am eligible to receive a vaccination as part of Ohio’s Phase 1B Vaccination Program.

Verbal confirmation sample script

Below you will find suggested language to obtain verbal confirmation before vaccination.

Under Phase 1B, vaccine eligibility includes Ohioans born with or who have early childhood conditions that are carried into adulthood, which put them at higher risk for adverse outcomes due to COVID-19.

The following group of Ohioans are included, even though they are not age 65 or older, because they were born with or developed in childhood a severe condition that puts them at very high risk for dying from COVID-19.

Do you confirm that you have **one of the following medical conditions**, and are eligible to receive a vaccination as part of Ohio's Phase 1B Vaccination Program? Please respond "yes" or "no" after I read the list of conditions:

The qualifying conditions are:

- Sickle cell anemia.
- Down syndrome.
- Cystic fibrosis.
- Muscular dystrophy.
- Cerebral palsy.
- Spina bifida.
- People born with severe heart defects, requiring regular specialized medical care.
- People with severe type 1 diabetes, who have been hospitalized for this condition in the past year.
- Phenylketonuria (PKU), Tay-Sachs, and other rare, inherited metabolic disorders.
- Epilepsy with continuing seizures; hydrocephaly; microcephaly; and other severe neurological disorders.
- Turner syndrome, fragile X syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, and other severe genetic disorders.
- People with severe asthma, who have been hospitalized for this condition in the past year.
- Alpha and beta thalassemia.
- Solid organ transplant candidates and recipients.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please call the ODH Provider Call Center between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, at 1-844-9ODHVAX (1-844-963-4829) or email COVIDVACCINE@odh.ohio.gov. You also may visit the ODH [COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Information Training page](#) for additional information and resources.

Thank you for your participation in Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccine Program as a provider.

Sincerely,

Ohio Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Relations Team