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# Press Release

## Macon County Leaders Encourage Registration for COVID-19 Vaccination

The supply of COVID-19 vaccine from NC DHHS remains limited at this time and a waitlist was established in late January. Currently, only individuals in Group 1 (Health Care Workers with in-person Patient Contact) and Group 2 (Individuals age 65 and over) are eligible to receive the vaccine at this time according to the NC DHHS schedule. However, Macon County Leaders urge residents to register to receive the vaccine regardless of eligibility criteria. A description of the groups is listed below.

In preparation for the receipt of future vaccine, Macon County has opened registration to all individuals regardless of what eligibility criteria they fall within. Please note that if you are not in the 1 or 2 eligibility categories, the time between your registration and you receiving an appointment could be several weeks or months. County Manager, Derek Roland stated, "We urge Macon County residents to get registered now so when we receive vaccine and other eligibility groups open, appointments can be made quickly. We appreciate your patience as we await vaccine from NC DHHS".

Macon County is distributing the Moderna vaccine at this time, which is only available to individuals 18 and older; however, other NCDHHS vaccine sites are distributing the Pfizer vaccine, which is for individuals age 16 and older.

Each entity that is distributing the vaccine may approach the registration process differently, so if you plan to receive your vaccine from a hospital, pharmacy or doctor, it will be a different registration process.

Individuals should call 828-524-1500 to begin the registration process and get added to the waitlist. Once NC DHHS opens a new group and vaccine is available, individuals on the waitlist will be scheduled on a first come, first serve basis.

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