

Remittance Advice (RA) Message

Title: COVID Vaccination Planning for Staff of Long-Term Care Services Providers

Issue Date: 11/20/2020

Run Length: 6 weeks

Provider Type(s): 010, 048

Message: Alaska is preparing for the first COVID-19 vaccine shipments to arrive by the end of 2020. Because long-term care facility staff may be recommended for early vaccination, particularly in facilities serving seniors, it is important that you and your staff are prepared and have a plan in place.

As of November 4, 2020, four vaccines had begun the last of three stages of clinical trials in the U.S. to test safety and effectiveness. After the FDA approves a vaccine, based on the results of clinical trials, the CDC will recommend which populations should receive the vaccine first. These recommendations are guided by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

Because long-term care facility staff may be recommended to receive the vaccine first, the State of Alaska COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force is asking staff in these facilities to be prepared to receive the vaccine once it arrives in Alaska.

- There is no State of Alaska requirement for anyone to receive the COVID-19 vaccine; staff can decide whether they want to receive it.
- The initial vaccination locations will be select pharmacies and Community Health Centers.
- Once vaccines are available, you will be sent a calendar of dates, times and locations where the vaccination will be available.
- You must pre-register and schedule an appointment; vaccines will not be available on a walk-in basis.
- Depending on the vaccine, two appointments may be required – one for the 1st dose and one for the 2nd dose three or four weeks later.

When more details are available, you will receive information about registration and vaccination via [RA message](#). Visit [DHSS COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#) and [Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise](#) for the latest updates.