

January 5, 2021

## Press Release

Hello, this is Ron Woody, Roane County Executive, with a Tuesday, January 5th update. I did an update yesterday and I'm doing one today on the vaccination plan. Here are two (2) links. The first link will show you what phase your county is in, in this case Roane County, and who is eligible in these phases.

The second link is a link we shared yesterday, where you can go online, and schedule an appointment if in fact there are any appointments available. If appointments are not available, it will indicate that it is not open or unavailable.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again, the vaccination plan is very fluid.

Currently there are seven (7) phases. Roane County is in the first and second phases (1a1 and 1a2) which are primary healthcare workers and first responders. 1a2 (phase 2) includes ages 75 years and older.

The third phase (1b), which we hope will start in February, but could be March, includes K-12 employees and childcare staff, and at that time, 65 years and older become eligible.

The first three (3) phases are estimated to have 850,000. It is in question whether this number is individuals or doses. It is a big difference if it's the vaccination doses because people will start to receive their second vaccination soon.

The population of just the 65 year or older in Tennessee is 1.1 million.

What I have not been able to determine is the total 850,000. Is it a person count or the number of vaccination doses? If it is the number of vaccinations, the number of people served is cut in half due to having to have two (2) doses.

In summary, the vaccines are here in Roane County. The Plan of Vaccination (<https://roanecountytn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Covid-19-Vaccination-Plan.pdf>) is available but is a very fluid plan as:

1. Vaccination supply is limited. We had a shipment scheduled that probably came in yesterday or today at the Health Department.
2. Distribution plan is still being developed and learned, especially with the second dose distribution.
3. Hopefully, we will have additional companies that will have vaccines coming online soon.

Another thing that makes the vaccination plan very fluid is people who were in phase one (1a1) and phase two (1a2) may not have chosen to get the vaccination, or may not have been eligible, because they had recently been sick, and they may now decide to get the vaccine or may become eligible. So, keep that in mind that they are still in priority.

Here are two (2) important links.

Here is a link to schedule an appointment along with phone numbers.

- [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/roane-county-hd-covid-19-vaccine-for-phase1a1-1a2-75-and-over-tickets-133406665929?fbclid=IwAR1jkPFPF9kmzB5X\\_EJ2\\_k6mzbEFmz7a5xKNaG6hX3Te7untSbYSzN6fRHw](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/roane-county-hd-covid-19-vaccine-for-phase1a1-1a2-75-and-over-tickets-133406665929?fbclid=IwAR1jkPFPF9kmzB5X_EJ2_k6mzbEFmz7a5xKNaG6hX3Te7untSbYSzN6fRHw)
- Phone numbers- 865-354-1220 or 865-549-5343

Here is a link that has important information regarding who is currently eligible to receive the vaccine, and when you may become eligible.

- <https://covid19.tn.gov/covid-19-vaccines/vaccine-phases/?fbclid=IwAR0ofWpWMaC9r-DI8x9DOHxQkyBJKxjgpaRBzrs5tRknCTUW-r4dx9d6FFI>

Please remember the vaccination plan is very fluid and one can count on changes.

We still have a long way to go. Let's be very cautious. Let's be optimistic, but understand that right now at the Health Department, people are lined up all the time and the phones are constantly ringing, so please be patient.

RW/ba  
C:media