

The Cherokee County Health Department is currently scheduling Covid-19 vaccine appointments for those who are eligible under the Phase 2 criteria established by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for people who live or work in Cherokee County, Kansas.

Those who are determined to be eligible under Phase 2 and interested in receiving the vaccine should call the Cherokee County Health Department at 620-429-3087 to schedule an appointment. At this time, a drive-thru Point of Dispensing will be set up at the Health Department located at 110 East Walnut, in Columbus.

Those who are eligible and interested are encouraged to:

- Call 620-429-3087 to make an appointment with a Health Department representative. Do not leave a voicemail or a message via social media.
- Appointments will be scheduled until the available vaccine is gone.
- Vaccines will only be given to those with a scheduled appointment.
- Arrive on time, do not come early. If you have an appointment scheduled, you will receive a vaccine unless it is contraindicated due to health questions.
- Those getting vaccinated should turn north onto Indiana Street from Maple Street. Names will be checked against the appointment schedule. Those with an appointment will be allowed to turn west onto Walnut Street (which will otherwise be closed to through traffic).
- Those getting vaccinated will remain in their vehicle; a nurse will approach the vehicle and administer the vaccine.
- Those getting vaccinated will then be asked to park in a designated parking lot so they can be observed for 15-30 minutes (as per protocol) to ensure they don't have any adverse reaction. Everyone will remain in their vehicle.
- Emergency medical personnel will be on-site, should they be needed.

"Our staff is eager to begin Phase 2 and provide the vaccine to as many residents as possible, as safely as possible," stated Cherokee County Health Department Administrator Betha Elliott.

The vaccine provided by the Cherokee County Health Department is being provided at no cost, and is the Moderna vaccine, which will require a second dose in 24-28 days from the date of the initial dose.

"We will provide vaccines to those with scheduled appointments until the current supply is gone. If someone who is eligible calls and the current supply has been expended, they will be placed on a waiting list for when the next available supply arrives," concluded Administrator Elliott.

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