

From: Florida Podiatric Medical Association <fpmaalert@fpma.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021
Subject: FPMA Alert: COVID-19 Vaccinations and DPMs
Attachments: How to become a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider.pdf



FPMA Alert

March 16, 2021

On Friday, March 12, 2021, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services released a new Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) Amendment to add additional categories of qualified people authorized to prescribe, dispense, and administer COVID-19 vaccines. Amongst the other professions being added, the PREP Act authorizes DPMs, retired DPMs (having an inactive license within the past five years), and podiatric medical students to prescribe, dispense, and administer the COVID-19 vaccine if certain conditions are met.

On Monday, March 15, 2021, the Florida Department of Health began preparations to direct Florida-licensed podiatric physicians to register with the state vaccination system.

Attached to this email is a recently issued guidance document that specifies how to register to become a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider for the state of Florida.

While FPMA and APMA have allocated a substantial amount of effort and resources, we recognize that this has not changed the Florida licensed podiatric physician's designation/ability to be included in future initiatives. Although the exclusion within the Florida Shots Program was likely not

intentional, but rather an oversight, FPMA is dedicating resources and time to correct this. It is our intent to lobby for a permanent change (i.e., podiatric physicians to be included in future similar programs based upon ability and licensure).

Should FPMA members have any questions or concerns, please contact FPMA Executive Director Karen N. Lambert directly at 850.224.4085 or via email at klambert@fpma.com.

RESOURCES:

PREP Act Declaration:

<https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/prepact/Pages/PREP-Act-Guidance.aspx>

White House Press Release: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/12/fact-sheet-president-biden-expands-efforts-to-recruit-more-vaccinators/>

Florida Shots Program: <https://www.flshotsusers.com/>

Florida Board of Podiatric Medicine Website:

<https://floridaspodiatricmedicine.gov/>

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Message sent by FPMA, fpmaalert@fpma.com

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Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

Important Updates Regarding Additional Populations Eligible to Receive COVID-19 Vaccines, COVID-19 Determination of Extreme Vulnerability Form, Becoming a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider, CDC Guidance on Fully Vaccinated Persons, and the Health Care Provider Telephone Conference Call
March 10, 2021

Additional Populations Eligible to Receive COVID-19 Vaccines

Governor Ron DeSantis issued [Executive Order 21-62](#) (amending Executive Order 20-315), expanding the populations eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccines in Florida. Currently, health care providers may administer COVID-19 vaccines to persons 65 years and older. Effective March 15, 2021, health care providers may also administer COVID-19 vaccines to persons 60 years and older. Other populations eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine are long-term care facility residents and staff, health care personnel with direct patient contact, K-12 school employees 50 years and older, sworn law enforcement officers 50 years and older, and firefighters 50 years and older.

As authorized in Executive Order 20-315, hospital providers may continue to vaccinate individuals ages 16 to 64 who are medically vulnerable without the DOH form. All health care providers authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccines in Florida may vaccinate patients deemed to be extremely vulnerable to COVID-19 by a physician.

COVID-19 Determination of Extreme Vulnerability Form

The Department of Health has issued [Emergency Rule 64DER21-3](#) which includes the COVID-19 Determination of Extreme Vulnerability form [DH8014-DCHP-03/2021](#) which must be completed and signed by a physician who is licensed in Florida. The COVID-19 Determination of Extreme Vulnerability form must then be submitted by the patient to the vaccine provider at the time of vaccination.

How Can I Become a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider?

To become a COVID-19 vaccine provider, your practice or organization must be enrolled in the Florida State Health Online Tracking System (SHOTS) and the Vaccines for Children/Adults Program (VFC/VFA). To enroll in the Florida SHOTS program, visit [FLShotsUsers.com](#). Fill out the application. Check the "COVID-19 Enrollment" check box to indicate your interest in the COVID-19 vaccination effort. Complete the registration process as directed.

Florida SHOTS has a number of trainings available to help providers. These trainings can be accessed by visiting <http://flshotsusers.com/>.

Once you are enrolled in Florida SHOTS, log in to the application and access the COVID-19 Enrollment page. Complete the Section A agreement, including the necessary signatures, and email the signed document to CovidVaccineProgram@flhealth.gov. Then:

- If you are not enrolled in VFC/VFA you will be contacted by an enrollment specialist to complete that process.

- If you are already enrolled in VFC/VFA, you must then complete and submit the necessary Section B agreements for each site that you want to enroll as a COVID-19 vaccine provider. The Section B form is found in Florida SHOTS on the COVID-19 enrollment page.

Once you are enrolled in Florida SHOTS and VFC/VFA and have submitted the Section A and B COVID-19 agreements, the process is complete. The COVID-19 vaccine enrollment desk will contact your organization to provide further information on how to order and receive vaccines as available. For questions or additional information, please contact the COVID-19 Vaccine Enrollment Desk at 833-701-1397, or email CovidVaccineProgram@flhealth.gov.

Click here to view the flyer with enrollment instructions: https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/COVID-Vaccine-Flow-Chart-for-Providers_Updated_11.30.20.pdf

To view the Florida Department of Health Immunization Section COVID-19 vaccine webpage, visit: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/immunization/COVID-19VaccineInfo/index.html>

CDC Guidelines for Fully Vaccinated Persons

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has published guidance for those who are considered to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. These recommendations may be found on the CDC's website at the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

Health Care Provider Telephone Conference Call Information

The health care provider telephone conference call is held monthly, the fourth Tuesday of each month, at 5:30 p.m. Participants are asked to email questions in advance to Provider.COVID19@flhealth.gov no later than close of business on the Monday preceding the call. All participants will be muted during these calls to help streamline information delivery. The State Surgeon General, Dr. Scott A. Rivkees, will provide updates from the Department of Health on the COVID-19 response efforts and address questions submitted from health care providers. This call is not transcribed or recorded. If you are interested in joining next month's telephone conference call, please see the updated call-in information below:

Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021

Time: 5:30 p.m., ET

Call-In Number: 888-585-9008

Conference Room ID: 208-305-233

Submit Questions in Advance: Provider.COVID19@flhealth.gov