

## TCC COVID-19 FAQ

March 30, 2021

*Here is the latest information on COVID-19 vaccinations, the state of Washington's re-opening timeline and TCC's policies.*

### **What is Washington state's vaccination rollout timeline?** *(source: Washington State Dept. of Health)*

The state is vaccinating people in phases. As of **March 31, 2021**, the state will be in Phase 1B tier 3 and 4 of vaccine distribution. These groups are now eligible to receive vaccinations:

- People 16 years or older with 2 or more co-morbidities or underlying conditions • All people 60 years and older
- People, staff and volunteers in certain congregate living settings: correctional facilities; groups homes for people with disabilities; settings where people experiencing homelessness live or access services
- High-risk critical workers in certain congregate settings: restaurants, food services, construction and manufacturing

The state will continue adding eligible groups in spring and summer. To find out if you're eligible and to find vaccination sites near you, visit:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/VaccineInformation/PhaseFinderTool>

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For more information on vaccination phases, visit:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/VaccinationPhasesInfographic.pdf>

### **How do I get a vaccination if I'm eligible?** *(source: Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department)*

In Pierce County, hospitals, health clinics and some pharmacies (and grocery store pharmacies) are administering vaccines as supplies become available. Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department is also coordinating mass vaccination clinics. Find details and links to sites offering vaccinations at:

<https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information>

### **If I already had COVID-19, should I get the vaccine?** *(source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control CDC)*

The CDC recommends you should be vaccinated regardless of whether you already had COVID-19. That's because experts don't yet know how long you are protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. Even if you have already recovered from COVID-19, it is possible—although rare—that you could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 again. Learn more about [why getting vaccinated is a safer way to build protection](#) than getting infected.

### **If I am fully vaccinated, what activities can I safely participate in? Do I still need to wear a mask and social distance?**

*The CDC issued these interim guidelines on March 8, 2021:*

People are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks or more after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or 2 weeks or more after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson). The following recommendations apply to non-healthcare settings.

Fully vaccinated people can:

- Visit with other fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing

- Visit with unvaccinated people from a single household who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Refrain from quarantine and testing following a known exposure if asymptomatic (not having COVID-19 symptoms)

For now, fully vaccinated people should continue to:

- Take precautions in public like wearing a well-fitted mask and physical distancing
- Wear masks, practice physical distancing, and adhere to other prevention measures when visiting with unvaccinated people who are at [increased risk for severe COVID-19](#) disease or who have an unvaccinated household member who is at increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease
- Wear masks, maintain physical distance, and practice other prevention measures when visiting with unvaccinated people from multiple households
- Avoid medium- and large-sized in-person gatherings
- Get tested if experiencing [COVID-19 symptoms](#)
- Follow guidance issued by individual employers
- Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations

Together, COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC's recommendations for [how to protect yourself and others](#) offer the best protection from getting and spreading COVID-19. More information is at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html>.

**What if I'm fully vaccinated, then exposed to someone who has COVID-19?** *The CDC issued these recommendations in its March 8, 2021 interim guidelines:*

**Fully vaccinated people with COVID-19 symptoms**

Although the risk that fully vaccinated people could become infected with COVID-19 is low, any fully vaccinated person who experiences symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should isolate themselves from others, be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, and be tested if indicated.

**Fully vaccinated people with no COVID-like symptoms following an exposure**

Fully vaccinated people with no COVID-like symptoms do not need to quarantine or be tested following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, as their risk of infection is low.

Fully vaccinated people who do not quarantine should still monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure. If they experience symptoms, they should isolate themselves from others, be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, including SARS-CoV-2 testing, if indicated, and inform their health care provider of their vaccination status.

**What is the current state travel advisory?**

As of March 22, Gov. Jay Inslee announced that the state travel advisory will align with CDC's travel advisory guidance.

The CDC is saying to continue to delay travel and stay home to protect yourself and others from COVID-19, even if you are vaccinated. If you must travel, take steps to protect yourself and others:

- If you are eligible, get fully vaccinated for COVID-19.
- Before you travel, get tested with a viral test 1-3 days before your trip.
- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth when in public.
- Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet/2 meters (about 2 arm lengths) from anyone who did not travel with you.
- Get tested 3-5 days after your trip and stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, even if your test is negative. If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- Follow all state and local recommendations or requirements after travel.

TCC will follow these CDC guidelines for travel.

**Should TCC staff, students and vendors who have been fully vaccinated continue to report any exposure to COVID-19 to TCC authorities?**

Should TCC staff, students and vendors who have been fully vaccinated continue to report any exposure to COVID-19 to TCC authorities?

At this time, no, unless they develop symptoms and/or test positive for Covid-19. We need everyone to continue to practice safety protocols (masks and social distancing) and monitor symptoms if there is an exposure.

**What phase of re-opening is Washington State in and what activities are permitted?**

On March 22, 2021, every county in Washington moved to Phase 3 of the Healthy Washington-Roadmap to Recovery plan. Phase 3 allows indoor spaces, like restaurants and movie theaters, to operate at 50% occupancy. Up to 400 people can attend indoor and outdoor activities, such as concerts and high school graduations, as long as physical distancing and masking are enforced. Spectator capacity is also expanded for high school and youth sports. High school contact sports, like basketball, wrestling and cheerleading, can resume. Outdoor events with permanent facilities can have 25% occupancy for spectators.

For details, go to: <https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/HealthyWashington.pdf>

**What TCC sports and athletics events will be open to spectators this spring and summer?**

TCC fully cooperates with the Northwest Athletic Conference and follows their safety protocols, along with state and federal guidelines.

With the State of Washington moving into Phase III and the Washington Activities Guidelines recently updated, NWAC Washington member colleges may allow spectators to attend outdoor athletic competitions with capacity limits subject to state/county/local regulations, and campus policies. Member colleges should be fully aware of the State of Washington Activities Guidelines for outdoor events. Fans must follow safety protocols posted at the venue. At this time, TCC will not offer spectator athletic events.