



# NCDHHS

**From:** DHHS Division of Public Health - Dr. Carl Williams (State Public Health Veterinarian)

We believe veterinarians, veterinary technicians and staff who work in the food and agriculture industry as essential frontline workers will be included in **Phase-1b Group-2** (*50 years or older*) or **Phase-1b Group-3** (*any age*).

Veterinarians, veterinary technicians and staff who work in small/companion animal or exotic animal private practice would be lower priority (**Phase-2 and beyond**) based on pre-existing medical conditions or age.

It is important to remember that vaccinations are being distributed by county, and primarily administered by human health care staff and local health departments at this time but that is expected to expand.

We will continue to refine this and keep in touch but at this time my understanding is only those veterinarians, veterinary technicians and staff working directly in the food and agriculture industry (such as meat and poultry plant inspectors) are the ones who would qualify for vaccination. Furthermore, those who are 50 years of age or older would receive priority.