



City of Laredo

Public Health Department

ORDER BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

FOR LOCAL COVID-19 VACCINE PROVIDERS

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority of Sections 121.021 and 121.024 of the Texas Health and Safety Code and Section 85.1(g) of the Texas Administrative Code, unless specifically preempted by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the Local Health Authority has supervisory authority and control over the administration of communicable disease control measures within its jurisdiction when in his opinion these measures are necessary to protect the public health; and

WHEREAS, the situation regarding COVID-19 is rapidly evolving in the City of Laredo having reached its highest alert level of transmission through community spread as demonstrated by the surge in the number of active positive cases, related hospitalizations, and deaths; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure the supply of vaccines within throughout the City of Laredo is being distributed effectively, the Local Health Authority and the City of Laredo Public Health Department impose the following measures on all local COVID-19 vaccine providers, including hospitals, pharmacies, freestanding ERs, and other clinics.

NOW THEREFORE, effective immediately, the Local Health Authority for the City of Laredo hereby imposes the following control measures on all local COVID-19 vaccines providers:

1. In an effort to facilitate the distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations, all providers within the City of Laredo that have received supplies of the COVID-19 vaccine for distribution are hereby Ordered to provide written notice to the City of Laredo Public Health Department through email at covidreporting@ci.laredo.tx.us of the following:
 - (a) The total number of vaccines received (such notice shall be provided within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving the supply);
 - (b) The contact name, phone number and address for each vaccine dispensing site (such notice shall be provided twenty-four (24) hours prior to disbursement); and
 - (c) The total number of vaccines administered at each dispensing site together with the eligible criteria used for distribution (notice should be provided at the end of each disbursement day); and
 - (d) The total number of additional vaccines administered to non-eligible recipients and basis for doing so (notice should be provided on a daily basis.
2. Because of the limited supply, all entities that have received COVID19 vaccines for distribution must do so in an efficient and responsible way to protect our most vulnerable populations. Therefore, as directed by the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS), all entities that have received COVID-19 vaccines, or who shall receive COVID-19 vaccines in the future, are hereby Ordered to:
 - (a) Vaccinate recipients who are eligible for the vaccine under Phase 1A or Phase 1B as identified below.



Phase 1A - Health Care Workers and Long-Term Care Residents to Include:

- Unpaid and paid workers in hospital settings working directly with patients who are positive or at high-risk for COVID-19. This includes physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists and other support staff such as custodians.
- Long-term care staff working directly with vulnerable residents like at nursing homes, assisted living facilities and state-supported living centers. Includes also physicians, nurses, personal care assistants, custodial and food service staff.
- EMS providers who engage in 911 services like pre-hospital care and transport.
- Home health care workers, including hospice care, who interact with vulnerable and high-risk patients.
- Residents of long-term care facilities.
- Staff in outpatient care settings who interact with symptomatic patients, such as physicians, nurses and other support staff, clinical services that provide diagnostics, laboratory, and/or rehabilitation services, non-911 transport for routine care and health care workers in corrections and detention facilities.
- Direct care staff in freestanding emergency medical and urgent care facilities.
- Community pharmacy staff who provide direct services to customers, including vaccinations or testing for COVID-19.
- Public health and emergency response staff involved in administering COVID-19 tests and vaccines.
- “Last responders” who provide mortuary or death services to people who have COVID-19 and died. That includes embalmers, funeral home workers, medical examiners and other medical certifiers who have direct contact with a person who has died.
- School nurses who provide health care to students and teachers.

Phase 1B - People over 65 Years Old or With at Least One Verifiable High-Risk Medical Condition

Those in Phase 1B includes people 65 years and older and over 16 with at least one verifiable chronic medical condition that puts them at an increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19 to include:

- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathies
- Solid organ transplantation
- Obesity and severe obesity (body mass index of 30 kg/m² or higher)
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

(b) To further ensure that the early supplies of vaccine go to the people who need it most, in situations where providers are unable to reach and/or vaccinate all willing people from the community in Phase 1A and 1B within five days of receiving a supply of vaccines, they are Ordered to immediately turn over their surplus supply of vaccines to the Laredo Health Department for community wide distribution to eligible healthcare workers, those age 65 and older, and those with high-risk medical conditions.

(c) All entities that receive COVID-19 vaccines should ensure there is an equitable distribution of the vaccine which targets the hardest hit zip codes and demographics of the community.

This Order issued on this 5th day of January 2021 pursuant to the authority of the Local Health Authority for the City of Laredo to be included, and subject to the penalties, contained within the City of Laredo’s COVID-19 Emergency Ordinance.



Victor Trevino, MD
City of Laredo Health Authority