

**Iowa Department of Public Health  
COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Policy  
April 5, 2021**

Pursuant to the authority contained in Iowa Code sections 135.11(1) and 135.144(3), the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) issues the following guidance for administration of COVID-19 vaccine.

**Effective date of Policy:** This Policy is effective April 5, 2021, and shall remain in effect until rescinded or modified by IDPH.

**Individuals, facilities, and other entities covered by this Policy:** All Iowa licensed health care providers, hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, local boards of health, and public health agencies; and any person licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized or permitted by the laws of the state of Iowa or Gubernatorial Proclamations of Disaster Emergency issued on or after March 9, 2020, to administer vaccinations are covered by this Policy. All healthcare providers, facilities, and entities which receive and administer COVID-19 vaccines in Iowa are required to complete the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement.

**Vaccine Shortage Orders Rescinded:** The Vaccine Shortage Orders issued by IDPH on December 14, 2020, January 21, 2021, February 1, 2021, and March 8, 2021, have been rescinded.

**Administration of COVID-19 Vaccine:** Effective April 5, 2021, vaccine providers in all counties may implement vaccinations of all people aged 16 and over. The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is authorized for administration in persons aged 16 and over. The Moderna and Janssen/J&J vaccines are only authorized in persons aged 18 and over.

In counties in which vaccine demand exceeds supply, providers may continue to utilize the priority designations contained in the Phase 1-B Vaccine Shortage Order dated March 8, 2021 and may expand eligibility to all persons aged 16 and over as supply increases.

**Vaccine Redistribution:** If a vaccine provider has additional doses of vaccine, they may transfer such doses to another approved COVID-19 vaccine provider only after receiving approval from IDPH. A vaccine provider must

submit a COVID-19 Vaccine Redistribution Form to IDPH and receive approval of such request prior to transfer of COVID-19 Vaccine. IDPH will review each vaccine transfer request within 24 hours and notify providers if the transfer request has been approved.

**Immunity:** Iowa law contains immunity provisions protecting persons, corporations, and other legal entities, and employees and agents of such persons, corporations, and other legal entities who provide medical care or assistance in good faith under the direction of the Department of Public Health during a public health disaster. Iowa Code § 135.147. A health care provider, hospital, health care facility, and any other person, corporation, or other legal entity or employee of all such entities acting in good faith compliance with this Policy is acting at the request of and under the direction of the Iowa Department of Public Health for purposes of the immunity provisions of Iowa Code section 135.147.

Other federal and state laws contain additional immunity protections for COVID-19 vaccine providers, including the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act or PREP Act, Division C of P.L. 109-148 (2005), 42 USCA 247d and Iowa Code chapter 686D.