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Food and agriculture eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine appointments in Grand Traverse County

Beginning March 1, food and agriculture workers became eligible to register and receive the COVID-19 vaccine in the State of Michigan. With the announcement, the Grand Traverse County Health Department will allow those that meet the definition (below) to register and schedule for the vaccine effective immediately.

Food and agriculture workers are defined by the State of Michigan as:

- Food processing workers including especially meat processing and meatpacking facilities; processing of fruit and vegetables; dairy processing; animal feed manufacturing; food and animal feed ingredient manufacturing; beverage production; and the production of food packaging.
- Farmers and farm workers, including migrant and seasonal workers, involved in raising, cultivating, harvesting, packing, storing, and distributing agricultural commodities, and who are by the nature of their work in close proximity and contact with other people.

Those that meet the definition can schedule by visiting: <https://gtcountycovid19.com/vaccine/>.

More information further defining and prioritizing the industry is expected from the state. When it is received, we will alert the public and adjust our screening process to reflect it.

Currently, the GTCHD is reserving 75% of its weekly first dose allocations for the 65 and older population and 25% for all eligible workers as required by the state. As of March 2, 2021, and according to the [State of Michigan COVID-19 vaccine dashboard](#) 68% of the 65 and older population had received at least 1 dose of vaccine in Grand Traverse County, with over 40% having been completely vaccinated.

Local health departments are responsible for oversight and implementation of the vaccine strategy within their jurisdictions. They play a crucial convening and coordination role in both the distribution and administration of vaccine.

The Grand Traverse County Health Department and our community partners are dedicated to ensuring that everyone in our community who would like to receive the COVID-19 vaccine receives it over the coming months. Please be patient as we continue to follow the [MDHHS guidelines for COVID-19 vaccination](#).

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