

Vaccine Access for Congregate Settings, Vulnerable Communities and Homebound Residents

Information for Facilities

The State of Connecticut continues to prioritize congregate settings and other vulnerable communities for vaccine access. The definitions and policies below have been developed to help the state’s contracted providers of congregate facilities understand how the state is supporting equity and access for these communities.

Type of Setting	Definition	Policy & Guidance
Congregate settings	<p>Residential facilities that provide supportive or supervisory services to their residents and where social distancing is not possible due to shared bedrooms, shared kitchens or shared bathrooms.</p> <p>These facilities are either licensed by or otherwise formally affiliated with the State of Connecticut and are administered by a private non-profit or other formal entity.</p> <p><i>Detailed eligibility information below.</i></p>	<p>All residents and staff working directly in these settings are currently eligible to receive vaccine.</p> <p>Facilities are encouraged to work with local health departments or healthcare providers with existing relationships to arrange for either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in community clinics; or • On-site vaccine clinics at the congregate setting. <p><i>More information below about arranging a vaccinators if one does not currently exist.</i></p>
Supported living for older adults and individuals with disabilities	<p>Non-licensed, generally apartment-style housing in which older adults and individuals with disabilities live in close proximity and generally receive supportive services in their home.</p> <p><i>Not eligible under congregate setting definition.</i></p>	<p>These sites are not considered “congregate” and therefore eligibility is based on the broader community eligibility (e.g., only 75+ at this time).</p> <p>Local health departments and providers can conduct on-site clinics for eligible individuals at these sites to ease access.</p>
Homebound individuals	<p>Individuals who cannot leave the home due to contraindication or mobility restrictions.</p> <p><i>Not considered a congregate setting.</i></p>	<p>More information about vaccine access for homebound individuals will be coming soon.</p> <p>Providers may administer vaccine to homebound individuals in line with the broader community eligibility (e.g., 75+ as of January 22, 2021).</p>

Further detail and information about congregate settings

Eligibility

Residential facilities that provide supportive or supervisory services to their residents and where social distancing is not possible due to shared bedrooms, shared kitchens or shared bathrooms.

These facilities are either licensed by or otherwise formally affiliated with the State of Connecticut and are administered by a private non-profit or other formal entity.

Residents of these facilities and staff who work **directly in** these facilities are eligible in phase 1b.

For purposes of Phase 1b eligibility, congregate settings do not include supported apartments, foster or family settings, college dormitories, or boarding schools. Please see a list of eligible setting types below.

Setting types

- Remaining residential care homes (RCHs) and assisted living facilities (ALFs)
- Remaining DDS community living arrangements and continuous residential supports (group homes)
- DOH state congregate facilities
- DOC facilities
- DMHAS inpatient and residential facilities
- Sober houses
- Migrant farm worker housing
- DCF inpatient and residential facilities (16+ years)
- Shelters (housing, domestic violence)
- Halfway houses and reentry programs

How to request vaccine access for a congregate site

Community-based clinics and mass vaccination sites will accept appointments for staff and residents of congregate settings according to the waves identified above. If you are already registered as an employer coordinator in the VAMS, your roster may be uploaded to the VAMS for this purpose. Uploading your roster to the VAMS will allow anyone on the roster to access appointments at community-based clinics.

If you would like to register as an employer coordinator in order to give your staff or residents access to community-based clinics OR if your facility needs to request state assistance in accessing vaccines (e.g. onsite clinic), please fill out the information in [THIS FORM](#).