



**Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Jan. 26, 2021**

Current COVID-19 case count

Scott County – Total of 15,927
Total deaths in Scott County: 172

Rock Island County – 25 new cases since Monday; total of 12,036
Currently in hospital in Rock Island County: 36
Total deaths in Rock Island County: 291
Newly reported death of a woman in her 60s who had been hospitalized

Today's call

A video recording of today's media briefing can be found at
<https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news>

Hy-Vees in Rock Island County now taking vaccine appointments

Remarks from Nita Ludwig, administrator, Rock Island County Health Department

Winter in northwestern Illinois and eastern Iowa brings all sorts of challenges. The pandemic compounds the trouble.

Our third COVID-19 mass vaccination clinic fell victim to winter this week. The vaccination clinic scheduled for today had to be postponed because of this week's snowstorm. All 600 people who registered for this week's clinic will be transferred automatically to Tuesday, Feb. 2 at the same time slot and will receive their first dose of the Moderna vaccine.

We decided to postpone on Monday because we were concerned about the safety of our residents who registered for the clinic and our staff members working it. No vaccine doses will go to waste because we had to postpone the clinic.

Weather permitting, we will continue to have clinics at the Greater Quad City Auto Auction, 4015 78th Ave., Milan. Clinics time slots are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and must be reserved in advance. As always, all clinics are dependent on weather and vaccine supply for the week. Registration slots become available at 10 a.m. Fridays on our Facebook page and on our website, richd.org. We are using Signup Genius for the slots. You do not need to sign up for an account – just click a slot and put in your name and email address and click submit. Last week, the slots filled up in

about 4 minutes. No new slots will be available this Friday because of this week's postponement.

Our team also is finalizing our system to make sure people who received their first dose with us can get their booster shot. Some weeks, the clinic will be only for people getting their second doses, but most weeks we will be able to split out first and second doses in the same Tuesday clinic. The amount for each group will depend on supply and the number of people due for their second dose.

The CDC said last week that people have up to 42 days after their first dose to get their second dose, which is fortunate because it allows us to give at least some protection to more people while not hurting the progress of people who have received their first dose.

Our weekly vaccination clinics are not your only way to get the vaccine. We are relying on our partners to help use vaccinate our county of 143,000 people. We received wonderful news today from the Illinois Department of Public Health:

Hy-Vee stores in Milan, Moline, Rock Island and Silvis will start vaccinating people tomorrow (Wednesday). Hours are Monday-Friday: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Eligible residents in Phase 1A (healthcare) and Phase 1B (people 65 and older and frontline essential workers) can register at <https://www.hy-vee.com/my-pharmacy/covid-vaccine-consent>

Right now, Hy-Vee has the Moderna vaccine and said it would give either the first or second dose. It does not matter if you didn't get your first Moderna dose with Hy-Vee.

The State of Illinois is also collaborating with Walgreens and Jewel-Osco pharmacies to provide COVID-19 vaccinations. In Rock Island County, Walgreens on the Avenue of the Cities in Moline and Jewel-Oscos in Moline, East Moline and Silvis are participating.

Appointments are available online:

- Walgreens: <https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19>
- Jewel Osco: www.albertsons.com/covidclinic

The health department is also working closely with Community Health Care, UnityPoint-Trinity and Genesis to vaccinate groups in Phases 1B. Community Health Care is asking those 65 and older to email covidvacine@chcgca.org to inquire about scheduling a time to receive the vaccine.

We understand that everyone is eager to receive both doses as quickly as possible so we all can go back to normal life. All of this will take time and patience. We are thrilled to bring in more partners to help us vaccinate our community.

The bottom line: We still have more people who want the vaccine than we have doses, but supply and the number of ways to be vaccinated are growing. Your turn will come.

Even after you are vaccinated, please continue to wear your mask, watch your distance and wash your hands. These public health precautions will be with us for months to come.

Scott County begins Phase 1B next week; vaccine still very limited

Remarks from Edward Rivers, director, Scott County Health Department

We are grateful for our community's interest in the COVID-19 vaccine. We receive many questions every day inquiring when public clinics will begin. The demand for vaccine remains very high while the supply of COVID-19 vaccine in Scott County is VERY limited, and we do not expect this to change in the near future. We recognize that people are impatient to learn details about our upcoming clinics. We have been developing a plan to manage this issue to the greatest benefit of the community as Phase 1B begins next week.

Next week, the week of February 1, we will begin vaccinating people who are identified as qualifying in Phase 1B. These include:

- People 65 years of age and older
- Pre-Kindergarten-12 staff, early childhood educators, child care workers, and first responders (police, fire, DHS), in Tier 1 of Phase 1B.

We need to emphasize that not all members of a priority group or a tier will be able to receive a vaccine immediately.

The clinics for people 65+ will be the first public clinics taking place in Scott County. We will be announcing details later this week. The clinic dates, times, internet links, and phone numbers for appointment scheduling will be listed on our website, Facebook page, in local media broadcasts, and newspapers.

Residents can register to receive email updates for vaccination clinic dates and updates to our website. The email listserv link can be found on the front page of our website.

Clinics for Phase 1B, Tier 1 will also begin next week. **These clinics will be scheduled differently and will NOT be announced.** We will be reaching out to our local schools, first responder agencies, and Department of Human Services to identify those people qualifying in the Tier 1 group. People qualifying in this group WILL NOT need to reach out to our department to get an appointment. They will be connected to appointment scheduling through their employer.

Our department will continue to share updates in a variety of places: our website, Facebook page, local media broadcasts, and newspapers.

As more vaccine comes into the community, these updates will continue to tell people what they need to do. As we move into Phase 1B next week, people in other priority groups and the general public are asked to continue to watching for updates that tell them what steps to take. For many in our community, there is nothing they need to do at this time.

We thank you for your patience as we navigate this exciting yet challenging process!

More information

- www.TogetherQC.com
- coronavirus.iowa.gov
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics?regionID=2>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics?county=Rock%20Island>
- <https://www2.illinois.gov/idoc/facilities/Pages/Covid19Response.aspx>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/long-term-care-facility-outbreaks-covid-19>

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