



Office of Safety Management

Colleagues,

Some important news many of you have been anticipating for months: New York State has announced that Phase 1b of COVID-19 vaccine distribution begins this week, which authorizes vaccines for MTA workers and includes top priority for our heroic frontline employees.

This is great news in our fight against this deadly virus and we encourage you to get the vaccine to protect yourselves, your colleagues and your loved ones.

The State is setting up one of its first vaccination centers at the Javits Center, which will open on Wednesday, and has allocated a select number of shots to the MTA operating workforce. Agency leads will be reaching out and identifying eligible frontline volunteers to be scheduled to receive the vaccine at this State distribution hub.

The State, City and local counties have also launched public portals where you can go to register to receive the vaccine in New York. **We encourage only frontline employees to register at this time.**

- New York State Portal: <https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>. You can also call the New York State Vaccination Hotline beginning 4 p.m. today, Monday, January 11: 1-833-NYS-4VAX (1-833-697-4829).
- New York City Portal: <https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/>. You can also reserve an appointment at the City's new vaccine hubs in the Bronx, Queens and Brooklyn by calling 877 – VAX – 4NYC between the hours of 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM, seven days a week.

Further, the MTA will be launching its own on-site vaccination locations. This new program will be exclusive to the MTA workforce. The MTA will provide more details on the program soon.

Additionally, in order to facilitate receiving the vaccination and to minimize any service disruptions, MTA Chairman and CEO Pat Foye has authorized a special pay allowance for hourly operating employees for each instance that you receive a dose of the vaccine. All eligible hourly operating employees who get the vaccine will receive this special pay allowance.

This is a new program, so we ask that you have patience as we work with the State and City to scale it up. The MTA will receive an allocation of the vaccine proportionate to our population of the essential workforce. Demand for the vaccine currently far exceeds supply. You may not be scheduled to receive the vaccine for several weeks. Please bear with us as we work quickly to vaccinate as many of you as possible, even as the U.S. continues to face significant hurdles in the supply chain.

As always, we thank you for your incredible dedication to keeping New York moving forward.

Sincerely,

Patrick Warren
Chief Safety and Security Officer

Information on the Safety and Efficacy of Vaccines:

- <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov>
- <https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>