

Memorandum

To: All Staff
From: Teresa Costantinidis, Sr. VP Finance and Administration
Date: Jan. 15, 2021
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccination Information for Staff

I write to inform you of the University's ongoing work with the New Mexico Department of Health and the New Mexico Higher Education Department to ensure opportunities for our faculty and staff to be vaccinated. For our branch campus staff, please note that there will be some variations from campus to campus, as the vaccination sites, processes, and timelines vary somewhat from Taos, Gallup, Los Alamos, Valencia, and Albuquerque.

New Mexico is currently moving into Phase 1B of the COVID-19 vaccinations, which includes educational workers. The good news: many of our faculty and some staff at the University of New Mexico are in the Phase 1B vaccination group, classified under the [Essential Workers Group](#). This classification includes some staff who must come to campus to conduct in-person business and those who must come to campus to support in-person instructional experiences, those who are working in research centers and laboratories and cannot work remotely, and those who are working on federal contracts and others who cannot work remotely.

I urge all who wish to be vaccinated to sign up at the state's [vaccination registration portal](#). Indicate your employer as **University of New Mexico**, and for staff, your occupation as the position that most closely aligns with your work. Some of our staff will have different occupations to list, and we are currently working with the state to provide clearer guidance on this. Currently, there is no flag to indicate that you are working on-site, but the Department of Health is exploring adding this flag. If they do, you will be able to go back into your vaccination profile on the site to appropriately set the flag. Until that time, I encourage you to register online and update at a later point.

Additionally, I am pleased to report that UNM and UNM Hospital will be opening a mass vaccination site at The Pit starting next week. UNM Hospital is using the state's portal so all registrations for vaccination must go through the [New Mexico Department of Health vaccination registration portal](#).

Remember that public health orders have not changed, you must still employ COVID-safe practices – wear your mask, socially distance, and work remotely if you can. Even if you are vaccinated the virus can infect you. While your resulting immune response is highly likely to prevent it from producing disease, there is still a small chance you could become ill. Moreover, very little is known about the ability of the vaccinated to spread the virus even when they are not themselves sick.

Thank you for your continued support and service.

Teresa Costantinidis
Sr. VP Finance and Administration