



June 29, 2021

Access to COVID-19 Vaccinations for Nebraskans with Disabilities

The COVID-19 emergency presented a unique set of challenges to all states with respect to ensuring that all residents had access to testing and ultimately vaccines. The emergency was even more impactful for Nebraskans with disabilities who may require reasonable accommodations to access health care, including access to vaccinations. In Nebraska, the local health districts/departments and the state's Department of Health and Human Services have worked together to provide vaccinations to individuals requiring accommodations due to disability.

To-date, Nebraska's health departments have collectively been administering vaccinations to those who have identified as having a disability, their caregivers, and family members. Additional vaccinations have been provided at other locations by way of arranging specific events targeting the disabled community, furnishing reasonable accommodation in various residential settings, and working with providers who deliver other medical services to these residents. These efforts underscore the state's commitment to the accessibility of vaccinations for some of its most vulnerable residents.

Those meeting the following criteria are eligible to receive reasonable accommodation via coordination with their local health department:

1. Physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity OR
2. A person who has a record or history of such an impairment

If you meet the outlined criteria, please contact your local health district directly for accommodation:

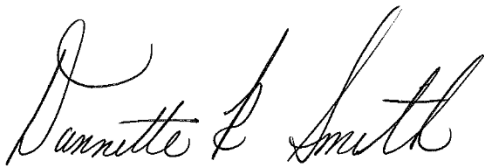
- Central District – 303-385-5175 (Kamrie Peterson)
- Dakota County – 402-987-2164
- Douglas County – 402-444-3400
- East Central – 402-563-9656 (Libby Finochiaro or Dana Spindola)
- Elkhorn Logan Valley – 402-529-2233
- Four Corners – 402-362-2621 (Tom Barnett or Laura McDougall)
- Lincoln Lancaster County – 402-441-8065
- Loup Basin – 308-346-5795 ext. 106 (Catie Larsen)
- North Central – 402-336-2406
- Northeast – 402-375-2200

- Panhandle – 308-633-2866 ext. 101 (Kim Engel)
- Public Health Solutions – 402-826-3880 (Kate Lange or Jackie Trojan)
- Sarpy/Cass –402-537-6975 (Marianne Toledo)
- South Heartland –402-462-6211 (Janis Johnson)
- Southwest – 308-345-4223
- Three Rivers – 402-909-2178 (Caleb Kuddes)
- Two Rivers – 888-669-7154
- West Central – 308-221-6623

For help determining which local health department to call, you may call the state's COVID Information Line at (531) 249-1873 or (833) 998-2275. Relay calls for deaf and hard of hearing and Language Line access are available at those numbers.

Nebraska remains committed to ensuring that residents with disabilities are able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, no matter where in the state they live.

Sincerely,



Dannette R. Smith, MSW
Department of Health and Human Services
Chief Executive Officer



Gary J. Anthonie, M.D.
Department of Health and Human Services
Chief Medical Officer