

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)



February 19, 2021

## Officials announce change in travel rules for vaccinated people, guidance for long-term care facilities

Gov. Phil Scott said at Friday's press conference that fully vaccinated people who travel to and from Vermont will no longer need to quarantine, effective February 23.

Travelers must be able to prove they have been fully vaccinated, he said. Fully vaccinated means it's been at least two weeks since your final dose.

Gov. Scott acknowledged there are many areas that will be impacted and questions to be answered.

"It's important for Vermonters to know, we are currently working through how vaccinations can impact multi-household gatherings," Gov. Scott said. "We're also looking at returning to a 'trusted household' policy and we hope to have further updates next week."

"This is encouraging news," he added. "It means the light at the end of the tunnel is getting bigger and brighter. We're one step closer to returning to more normal routines, and as more and more Vermonters receive their vaccine, and hospitalizations and fatalities continue to go down, and stay down — we'll continue to be able to turn the spigot."

Human Services Secretary Mike Smith also announced new guidance for long-term care facility residents effective February 26.

Facilities that have no COVID-19 outbreaks will be encouraged to use full vaccination status as a factor in planning for things such as eating together and participating in other group activities within guidelines. The guidance will also include considerations for safe physical contact and indoor visits.

Health Commissioner Mark Levine added: "We're glad vaccination efforts have been so successful in these facilities that it can help residents feel safe, while making it possible have greater freedom and connection with others."

**[Read the new quarantine guidance](#)**

## Vermonters age 70 and older can now make COVID-19 vaccine appointments

More than 20,600 of the 33,200 Vermonters who are age 70-74 have now made vaccination appointments through the state's registration system, since eligibility was expanded to that age group on Tuesday.

People who are age 70 and older can now make their appointment to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. If your parent or loved one age 70 or older hasn't made their COVID-19 vaccination appointment, remind them they are eligible now!

Going online to [healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine](https://healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine) is the fastest way to make an appointment, and there are enough slots at sites throughout Vermont for everyone who is eligible. Once at the [MyVaccine](https://healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine) website, people are asked to create an account, then log in to make their appointment.

Vaccination sites are available around the state, and people can choose a nearby location when making their appointment. In addition, Walgreens has now joined Kinney Drugs as a participating pharmacy providing vaccinations. Find links to make an appointment through those pharmacies at [healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine](https://healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine).

Anyone who is unable to make their appointment online, or who needs to speak with someone in a language other than English can call 855-722-7878. The call center is open Monday to Friday 8:15 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

We did experience periods of high call volumes Tuesday and appreciate your patience as we work to ensure all Vermonters who are eligible get an appointment for COVID-19 vaccine.

**Read the press release**

## New sites and appointment times added for age 70 and older vaccination

We're adding new sites and appointment times for COVID-19 vaccines for those who are 70 and up!

New sites and times have been added in Essex Junction, Hardwick, Randolph, Rutland, and St. Albans City for next week. If you haven't made an appointment yet, please visit our website at [healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine](https://healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine).

If you have a later appointment and wish to reschedule your appointment for an earlier one, or need assistance making an appointment, please contact our call center at 855-722-7878. To speak with someone in a language other than English, call this number, and then press 1.

**Register for a vaccine**

## Vermont will follow new CDC guidance for vaccinated people exposed to someone with

# COVID-19

Vermont will follow CDC's new guidance for people who have been fully vaccinated and are exposed to someone with COVID-19.

The CDC says these people do not need to quarantine, as long as they:

- Are fully vaccinated (had two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and two weeks have passed)
- Are within 3 months of receiving the second dose of the vaccine
- Have not had any COVID-19 symptoms since the exposure.

However, vaccinated inpatients and residents in health care settings will still need to quarantine if they are a close contact of someone with COVID-19. [Read the CDC's guidance.](#)

State officials said at Tuesday's press conference they are not yet making changes to travel-related quarantine for fully vaccinated people but are considering next steps.

## Read the CDC's guidance

## Help curb spread of COVID-19 by getting tested

Getting tested for COVID-19 is a critical tool to slowing the spread of the virus. The sooner you know if you have the virus, the sooner you can protect yourself, your loved ones and your community.

There are now even more sites available around the state to get tested, with more open daily. Make an appointment for a test by visiting [healthvermont.gov/testing](https://healthvermont.gov/testing). (You will need to create an account first.) Many test sites now allow Vermonters to [take their own samples](#) using a short swab in your nose.

If you're a close contact of someone with COVID-19, you can use [this timeline](#) to help guide when to get tested.

If you have [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, please contact your health care provider so they can refer you for testing. If you don't have a provider, you can call 2-1-1.

## Find testing near you

## Additional resources about vaccination & more

- Find answers to your questions about the COVID-19 vaccine from the CDC: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html).
- Find information sheets, posters and toolkits, and translated materials on our [Resources web page](#).
- COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard: [healthvermont.gov/covid19-vaccine-data](https://healthvermont.gov/covid19-vaccine-data).
- Get Vermont-specific information in our [Frequently Asked Questions](#). New questions added this week include:
  - Do COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility?

- What should I know about side effects?
- How can I confirm my vaccine appointment?
- I am fully vaccinated. Do I need to quarantine if I am a close contact of someone with COVID-19?
- Is one type of mask better than another? Is wearing two masks better?

**See all the FAQs**

## Take care of your emotional and mental health

If you or someone you know is in crisis or needs emotional support, help is available 24/7:

- Call your [local mental health crisis line](#).
- Text VT to 741741 to talk with someone at the [Crisis Text Line](#).
- Call the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) at 1-800-273-8255. For more info, visit [healthvermont.gov/suicide](https://healthvermont.gov/suicide).
- Get connected to Alcohol and Drug Support Services at [VT Helplink](#).
- Get self-help tips and connect to mental health services at [COVID Support VT](#).

**Read more on coping with stress**

## New on healthvermont.gov

How are people getting COVID- 19? Learn more in the latest [Weekly Data Summary Spotlight](#).

As of 12 p.m. on Friday, February 19, 2021:  
83,016 Vermonters have received a least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. See the latest vaccine data on the [COVID-19 Dashboard](#).



Vermont Department of Health | 802-863-7240 | [HealthVermont.gov](https://healthvermont.gov)  
[AHS.VDHPublicCommunication@vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.VDHPublicCommunication@vermont.gov)

