



**Kathleen Cuddy, MPH
Public Health Director
Cayuga County Health Department
8 Dill St.
Auburn, NY 13021**



For Immediate Release: Monday, February 15, 2021

Cayuga County COVID-19 Situational Update as of 2:30pm

New Cases

Sunday, February 14, 2021 – thirteen new cases admitted, plus one case at a local correctional facility.

Active Cases in Mandatory Isolation

146 Mandatory Isolation

Confirmed Cases – total since March 18, 2020

There have been 5,075 cases of COVID-19 in Cayuga County.

Hospitalizations

There are 7 COVID-19 related hospitalizations at Auburn Community Hospital.

Deaths

There have been 84 Cayuga County deaths related to COVID-19.

Additional Information

Beginning today, February 15, 2021, adult New Yorkers of any age (18 years +) with a qualifying health condition are now able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

The Cayuga County Health Department has been working with community partners to strategize how to meet the needs of our community and best serve residents as the vaccine eligibility expands to more groups. We understand not everyone in the county has access to a computer or reliable internet connection to make an online appointment and may not easily navigate calling the state hotline phone number to make an appointment.

That is why late last week, we asked Cayuga County Town and Village offices to assist with gathering names of residents of their respective Towns and Villages to create a waiting list and then facilitate making appointments for residents when they are available. Beginning tomorrow, Tuesday, February 16, 2021, participating town and village offices will start collecting names of those residents who are now eligible and interested in receiving the vaccine. Lists will be compiled and when the Health Department knows how much vaccine we will be receiving each week, we will work with the town and village offices to begin making appointments for residents. Please check with your local town or village office website, Facebook page or by calling their office to gather more information about joining an eligible waiting list.



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If you reside within the City of Auburn, the City has also committed to establishing a wait list for eligible residents. Due to the significantly higher population within the City, numerous sites will be established where eligible people will be able to register to be on a wait list. The City of Auburn will issue a separate press release with information where and how you may register to be part of an eligible wait list.

Please be patient as participating Cayuga County Towns and Villages and the City of Auburn adjust their workload to accommodate this additional service recently requested of them.

Additionally, as a matter of security for people interested in utilizing this service, it is important to remember, no person will be asked to share their social security number and there is no cost to receive the vaccine.

At this time, the Cayuga County Health Department will require any individual who has qualifying health condition to provide documentation that they are in fact eligible to receive vaccine. The eligibility documentation can be in the form of:

- a note on the health care provider's letterhead (including patient name, date of birth and list their health conditions that qualifies them)
- a visit summary note w/ health conditions listed, summary note must be from a visit within the past twelve months
- or a print off from the electronic health record portal with the necessary information

No individual will be allowed to receive the vaccine without qualifying documentation. The Health Department will be keeping the qualifying documentation for auditing purposes.

If you are 65 years of age or older, your age makes you eligible to receive the vaccine at a local pharmacy or state vaccination site, but not at a health department clinic. **In order to attend a health department clinic if you are 65 years of age or older, you must also have a qualifying health condition and a note from your health care provider.**

The Cayuga County Health Department does not know how many doses we will be receiving for those with qualifying health conditions. Depending on when the vaccine is delivered and how much is received will determine when a clinic is scheduled.

As a reminder, beginning today, Monday, February 15, 2021, adult New Yorkers of any age (18 years +) with the following conditions qualify for the vaccine:

- Cancer (current or in remission, including 9/11-related cancers)
- Chronic kidney disease
- Pulmonary Disease, including but not limited to, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), asthma (moderate-to-severe), pulmonary fibrosis, cystic fibrosis, and 9/11 related pulmonary diseases



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- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities including Down Syndrome
- Heart conditions, including but not limited to heart failure, coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathies, or hypertension (high blood pressure)
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) including but not limited to solid organ transplant or from blood or bone marrow transplant, immune deficiencies, HIV, use of corticosteroids, use of other immune weakening medicines, or other causes
- Severe Obesity (BMI 40 kg/m²), Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 kg/m² or higher but < 40 kg/m²)
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease or Thalassemia
- Type 1 or 2 diabetes mellitus
- Cerebrovascular disease (affects blood vessels and blood supply to the brain)
- Neurologic conditions including but not limited to Alzheimer's Disease or dementia
- Liver disease

For more information about COVID-19 you may visit our website www.cayugacounty.us/health and click the COVID-19 information button.
