



January 14, 2021

For immediate release

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**Anyone 65+ or persons with medical conditions can now register for the COVID vaccine wait list**

Anyone 65 and older or persons with medical conditions and interested in getting a COVID vaccine, please complete the form at <https://tinyurl.com/ycpxzr5d>. The online link completion is preferred, people can call 308-262-5764 or 308-633-2866 ext. 101.

Over 3,000 people have signed up so far! Be sure to help your elderly family, friends, and neighbors get signed up. This will put them on the list that is being coordinated with local hospital and vaccine providers, they will be called when vaccines are available. It may be several weeks.

If you have previously called or completed the survey, please be assured, you are on the list.

We are vaccinating health care providers and those 75 and older first. To date, 3,855 people in the eligible populations have received the COVID vaccine in the Panhandle. This number will continue to increase with each weekly vaccine allocation to the eligible populations at the corresponding times.

100 doses are anticipated to arrive next week. Doses are allocated based on percentages of population and amount received.

“The limited supply of vaccine requires patience on all of our part,” said Kim Engel, Panhandle Public Health District Director.

One additional COVID-related death in the Panhandle is being reported. A Sheridan County male in his 60s brings the total deaths to 156.

“We share peace and comfort with the friends and loved ones in the loss of this gentleman,” said Engel.

Unified Command confirms 91 more cases of COVID in the Panhandle since last reporting on Monday, January 11. The investigations are underway, all close contacts will be quarantined.

### All Ages: 91

County	Cases
Banner	0
Box Butte	10
Cheyenne	5
Dawes	14
Deuel	1
Garden	4
Grant	0
Kimball	9
Morrill	7
Scotts Bluff	30
Sheridan	10
Sioux	0

### Exposure Type

Community	60%
Close Contact	38%
Travel	0%
Under Investigation	2%

### March 2, 2020-January 14, 2021

- Total Tests Conducted: 31,472
- Positive: 8,057
- Last 14 days (active) cases: 356
- Last week's cases: 231
- Last week's positivity rate: 27.5%
- Deaths: 156
- Active Hospitalizations: 13
- Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 502
- Doubling time (November 10, 2020-January 13, 2021): 64 days

### Avoid the Three Cs:

- Avoid Crowded Places – Avoid gathering in groups where you cannot maintain 6-feet of distance from others
- Avoid Close Contact – Wear a mask over your nose and mouth or maintain 6-feet distance when you are spending more than 15 total minutes with people you don't live with
- Avoid Confined Spaces – Avoid enclosed spaces with poor ventilation

Current COVID testing access can be found at [www.pphd.org](http://www.pphd.org).

The Panhandle COVID dashboard is updated weekdays at 4:30 pm MT and available at [www.pphd.org](http://www.pphd.org). For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Panhandle Public Health District, Region 21, 22, and 23 Emergency Management, and Scotts Bluff County Health Department are working as a unified command on this evolving situation. Essential updates will be regularly communicated to the public and community partners.

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work, and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community. Visit our website [www.pphd.org](http://www.pphd.org).