



**Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Jan. 28, 2021**

Current COVID-19 case count

Scott County – Total of 16,081
Total deaths in Scott County: 173

Rock Island County – 25 new cases since Monday; total of 12,112
Currently in hospital in Rock Island County: 28
Total deaths in Rock Island County: 293
Newly reported death of a woman in her 60s who had been hospitalized

Today's call

A video recording of today's media briefing can be found at
<https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news>

Several ways to register for vaccine in Rock Island County, but supply is low

Remarks from Nita Ludwig, administrator, Rock Island County Health Department

As you know by now, this week's snowstorm forced the postponement of last Tuesday's mass vaccination clinic at the Greater Quad City Auto Auction in Milan. All 600 people who registered for their slot last week will be vaccinated at the Feb. 2 clinic in the same time slot. In addition, we received another allocation from the state, so we are adding 175 slots to next week's clinic. In all, we expect to vaccinate 800 people next Tuesday between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The link to register for the additional 175 slots will go live at 10 a.m. Friday on our Facebook page and our website, richd.org. We are using Signup Genius for the slots. You do not need to sign up for an account – just click a slot and put in your name and email address and click submit. We expect these 175 additional slots will go quickly.

We also are working out the final details of an indoor backup site in case we can't do our drive-through clinics because of inclement weather. We will announce any changes and the site location through our media partners, on our Facebook page and on our website.

We will continue our drive-through clinics whenever the weather allows. Drive-through clinics are safer because people aren't gathering indoors during a pandemic. And until just this week, gatherings of more than 10 people were not allowed under Restore Illinois mitigations.

We also are working with a local social service agency to register Rock Island County residents who do not have access to a computer. Please stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.

We must remind everyone that vaccine supply coming into the county remains low, but number of ways to be vaccinated is growing. Appointments through our partners also remain limited because of the small number of doses available

Here are the ways to register for vaccine in Rock Island County:

- Rock Island County Health Department: Link goes live at 10 a.m. every Friday on our Facebook page and at our website: richd.org
- Hy-Vee: <https://www.hy-vee.com/my-pharmacy/covid-vaccine-consent>
- Walgreens: <https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19>
- Jewel Osco: www.albertsons.com/covidclinic
- Community Health Care: Email covidvaccine@chcqca.org CHC is focusing on vaccinating employment-based groups in Phase 1B.

The federal government has said that vaccine supply will increase in the coming weeks and months, but until then, we ask that you remain patient and wait your turn. It will come.

Public clinics begin Feb. 1 for Scott County residents age 65 and older

Remarks from Edward Rivers, director, Scott County Health Department

We appreciate the patience of our community as we have navigated the planning and implementation of a community-wide vaccination campaign. You have heard us say it time and again, but the limited vaccine supply has been the single most difficult factor in scheduling clinics for priority groups in these first two phases.

February 1 Iowa will move into Phase 1B of the vaccination priority phases. With this, we will begin vaccinating two groups: persons 65 years and older and Phase 1B Tier 1 employees.

Our first public vaccination clinic will be for persons in the 65+ priority group. It will take place on Monday, February 1 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Scheduling an appointment is required. Walk-ins will not be accepted. Registration will be available tomorrow on our website: scottcountyiowa.gov/health. The clinic will take place at the former Sears department store at Northpark Mall.

The primary way to schedule for this clinic will be via a scheduling link on our website. However, we recognize that internet registration is not possible for everyone and we want to ensure members of our senior community have scheduling resources available to them. We are partnering with the Center for Active Seniors, Inc. (CASI) to assist in registering those seniors needing extra help. Seniors needing this assistance are asked to call CASI at 563-386-7477.

We would like to stress that this is the FIRST of what we expect to be many public clinics serving the 65+ population. Additional clinics will be scheduled weekly based on the vaccine supply given to us. Everyone will not be vaccinated during the first clinic or even the first few weeks. However, we are committed to continuing this process in the upcoming weeks and months.

Next week we, along with our healthcare partners, will also begin vaccinating additional groups in Phase 1B Tier 1, including Pk-12 school staff. The vaccination of these groups will take place by working directly with our public school districts and non-public schools. School staff do not need to contact our department for appointments.

We know our first public vaccination clinic is a welcomed sign for many in our community. We know this will also cause frustration due to the limited supply of vaccine and limited number of appointments. Again, as more vaccine is available each week, we will continue to schedule clinics.

We encourage everyone to find information on vaccination clinics and what to expect on our website at scottcountyiowa.gov/health.

Mutations in virus

Dr. Louis Katz, medical director of the Scott County Health Department and infectious disease physician, did not speak from prepared remarks. A recording of today's briefing is available at <https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news>.

More information

- www.TogetherQC.com
- coronavirus.iowa.gov
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics?regionID=2>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics?county=Rock%20Island>
- <https://www2.illinois.gov/idoc/facilities/Pages/Covid19Response.aspx>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/long-term-care-facility-outbreaks-covid-19>

###