



Minnesota Responds State Vaccination Group

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

3/12/2021

In response to anticipated need for volunteers to support Minnesota's vaccine administration effort, The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has established a State Vaccination Group (SVG) within Minnesota Responds. The group will enroll, vet, train, and deploy volunteers to provide staffing surge support to local public health vaccination clinics.

Who is eligible?

Health care providers who are currently licensed and authorized to give vaccinations in the state of Minnesota are eligible to enroll in the vaccination group.

What training is required?

Online training available on the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention's website is required prior to being eligible to deploy through the vaccination group. An orientation at the vaccination site is also required, and will include a demonstration of how to draw and inject COVID-19 vaccine.

What will I do?

Volunteers will be responsible for drawing and administering COVID-19 vaccine, and may be asked to provide additional support to other parts of the vaccination event. Volunteers will generally not be responsible for temperature monitoring or other maintenance of the vaccine.

Will I be vaccinated?

Volunteers not already vaccinated will receive a COVID-19 vaccination upon arrival at their first vaccination clinic shift. Volunteers will also be given proper personal protective equipment.

Do I have liability protection?

Volunteers responding to a call for assistance under the vaccination group are afforded certain liability protections under Minnesota state law and are deemed an employee of the state for purposes of worker's compensation and tort claim defense and indemnification. Many eligible volunteers will also have liability protection under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act.

If I am enrolled in my local Minnesota Responds unit, can I still enroll in the vaccination group?

Yes, volunteers can be enrolled simultaneously in both the vaccination group and their local Minnesota Responds unit. Volunteers already enrolled in their local unit may submit their request for enrollment into the vaccination group by updating their profile on the Minnesota Responds website.

When will I be asked to volunteer?

The demand for volunteers will vary week to week. Demand will depend on the amount of vaccine Minnesota receives from the federal government and the number of requests the state receives from local public health for volunteers. Although federal allocations of vaccine are expected to increase, vaccine is still slow to arrive. Though difficult to predict, the demand for volunteers may not increase until late spring or summer. A vaccination group volunteer coordinator will send out a call for volunteers when there is an identified need.

Am I required to respond to calls for volunteers?

Volunteers are never required to respond to a call for volunteers, and deployment will be based on availability, licensure, and proximity to the vaccination site. Volunteers will always know the location before they agree to volunteer.

Will I be reimbursed for my expenses?

Expenses such as mileage and parking are eligible for reimbursement following a deployment. Before each deployment, volunteers will be provided information as to what types of expenses may be eligible and instructions on how they can request reimbursement.

How do I sign up?

Volunteers may submit their registration for the vaccination group on the website, [Minnesota Responds Medical Reserve Corps \(https://www.mnresponds.org/\)](https://www.mnresponds.org/). Please email minnesotaresponds@state.mn.us if you have questions.



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Contact health.communications@state.mn.us to request an alternate format.