

*11,000 appointments are being released for eligible residents including special education staff and those living with highest and very high chronic health conditions.*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Monday, April 12, 2021

## **Limited number of COVID-19 vaccines available**

*11,000 appointments being released for eligible residents including special education staff and those living with highest and very high chronic health conditions*

**Newmarket** – The Regional Municipality of York is releasing a limited number of COVID-19 vaccine appointments as the Region continues to deliver vaccines identified in Phase 2 of [the Government of Ontario's COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan](#).

**Effective Tuesday, April 13, 2021 beginning at 8:30 a.m.**, eligible York Region residents can book an appointment for their COVID-19 vaccination by visiting [york.ca/COVID19Vaccine](http://york.ca/COVID19Vaccine)

**Approximately 11,000 new vaccine appointments will open. York Region will continue to offer additional appointments as more vaccine becomes available.**

**Appointments are required. Walk-in appointments are not available. Please do not visit a vaccination clinic without an appointment – you will be turned away.**

York Region is experiencing a serious reduction in vaccine due to the delays in the Moderna shipment for this week. Regretfully, this overall lack of COVID-19 vaccine

will force York Region Public Health to close our COVID-19 vaccination clinics at Canada's Wonderland (drive-thru) in the City of Vaughan and the Georgina Ice Palace in the Town of Georgina. York Region Public Health will also reduce the capacity at the remaining three public health clinics in the City of Markham, City of Richmond Hill and the City of Vaughan. These closures and adjustments will remain in place until the Region receives additional vaccines.

COVID-19 vaccines are available to the following:

- York Region residents age 65+ (born in 1956 or earlier) in all clinics
- York Region residents age 60+ (born in 1961 or earlier) at the Cornell and Soccer City clinics
- **Updated: York Region residents age 45-54 (previously 45-59) who live in five identified high priority communities in York Region**
- **NEW: Individuals (and one of their caregivers) with [highest and very high risk health conditions](#) as identified in Ontario's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan**
- **NEW: Special education staff who work in York Region**
- [Highest, very high and high priority health care workers](#) as identified in the Ministry of Health's guidance on Health Care Work Prioritization who work or live in York Region
- Staff, essential caregivers and any residents that have not yet received a first dose in long-term care homes, retirement homes and First Nations elder care homes
- Alternative level of care patients in hospitals who have a confirmed admission to a long-term care home, retirement home or other congregate care home for seniors
- Staff, residents and caregivers in retirement homes and other congregate care settings for seniors
- Indigenous adults and members of their households
- Adults with a chronic condition receiving home care services and who live in York Region (appropriate documentation will be required)
- Eligible adult recipients of chronic home care
- Faith leaders who live or work in York Region and provide end of life care, care of the deceased, care of those who are unwell or provides pastoral services in vulnerable settings

Residents age 55+ are also able to book vaccine appointments at select [York Region pharmacies](#).

In accordance with the Ministry of Health's recent recommendations, transplant patients and some cancer patients are encouraged to get their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine as close to the 21 to 28-day timeframe as possible. Information, including eligibility and clinic details, are available on [york.ca/COVID19Vaccine](#)

A colour-coded system has been applied to the [york.ca/COVID19Vaccine](#) page to help residents easily identify which clinics may have available appointments:

- Red: Appointments Fully Booked
- Orange: Limited Availability
- Green: Now Booking

**York Region Public Health is working with our local health care partners to provide COVID-19 vaccines for eligible priority groups at various locations across York Region. Eligibility, clinic dates and times vary for each location. Please visit [york.ca/COVID19Vaccine](#) for specific clinic details.**

Eligible individuals can book their first COVID-19 vaccination appointment online; telephone support is available and is listed under the applicable clinic.

York Region Public Health and our hospital-led clinics continue to work collaboratively to release additional appointments as vaccines become available. As a result of no-shows and/or cancelled appointments, additional vaccine supply may become available and a small number of appointments may appear through the online booking systems. Residents are encouraged to check back often for appointments that may become available.

York Region will continue to publicly communicate new online booking opportunities through multiple communication channels, including [york.ca](#), social media and our media and community partners.

To ensure all appointments are available to those who are eligible, we encourage residents to book only one appointment per person and cancel any appointments they do not intend to use.

The Regional Municipality of York consists of nine local cities and towns and provides a variety of programs and services to 1.2 million residents and 54,000 businesses with 650,000 employees. More information about the Region’s key service areas is available at [york.ca/regionalservices](http://york.ca/regionalservices)

- 30 -

**Media Contact:**

Melissa Pinto, Corporate Communications, The Regional Municipality of York  
Phone: 437-997-6821 [melissa.pinto@york.ca](mailto:melissa.pinto@york.ca)



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