February 26, 2021

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN OKALOOSA COUNTY ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS STILL AVAILABLE FOR FEBRUARY 27 AND MARCH 1 FOR DRIVE-THRU COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR OLDER ADULTS AND HEALTH CARE WORKERS



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FORT WALTON BEACH, Fla.— The Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa) is partnering with Okaloosa County Emergency Medical Services and local fire departments to offer COVID-19 vaccinations by appointment only to adults ages 65 and older and non-hospital health care workers with direct patient contact. Appointments are still available for Saturday Feb. 27 and Monday March 1.

Appointments are still available over the phone and online through Eventbrite. To make an appointment call 850-344-0566 or visit myokaloosa.com/bcc/covid-19/vaccine to register with Eventbrite.

Saturday, Feb. 27 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Northwest Florida State College 100 E. College Blvd. Niceville, FL

Monday, March 1 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Destin-Fort Walton Beach Convention Center 1250 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE Fort Walton Beach, FL

Anyone born in Feb. 1956 or earlier (for Feb 27) or March 1956 (for March 1) and non-hospital health care workers with direct patient contact are eligible for a vaccine appointment. For the definition of what classifies as a health care worker with direct patient contact, visit our COVID-19 vaccine page. IDs will be verified at the vaccination event and if anyone scheduled does not meet these criteria, their appointment will be canceled.

The vaccination provided will be the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine. A second dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine is required 21 days after the first dose. This dose will be scheduled at the first dose appointment. Medical experts and doctors have developed a safe and effective

vaccine. This vaccine has been authorized by the Food and Drug Administration based on clinical testing.

According to data released by the Food and Drug Administration, the vaccines made by Moderna and Pfizer- BioNTech are highly protective for adults and prevents severe cases of COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccine is a monumental step toward getting this disease under control in Florida, but the department is still encouraging residents and visitors to take precautions to protect themselves and others from the spread of the virus. These include frequent hand washing, wearing face masks, maintaining six feet of social distancing, and staying home if you are feeling sick.

Updates will be added to DOH-Okaloosa website, <u>www.HealthyOkaloosa.com</u>. Information about the statewide vaccination distribution plan can be found on the Department of Health's dedicated COVID-19 webpage.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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