



Wednesday, March 3, 2021

District Council Authorizes Mayor Bowser to Extend the Public Health Emergency

Yesterday, the District Council voted to extend Mayor Bowser authority to extend the coronavirus public health emergency. The current public health emergency is set to expire on March 31st. With this authority, Mayor Bowser can extend the public health emergency through May 20, 2021. We fully anticipate that Mayor Bowser will exercise this authority. HAWDC will update members when Mayor Bowser issues her next order.

District is in Phase 1C of Vaccination Distribution

This week, the District began Phase 1C Tier 1 of the COVID-19 vaccine distribution. The following populations are now eligible for the vaccine: DC Residents who are 16-64 years old with qualifying medical conditions.

- Asthma
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), and other Chronic Lung Disease
- Bone Marrow and Solid Organ Transplantation
- Cancer
- Cerebrovascular Disease
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Congenital Heart Disease
- Diabetes Mellitus
- Heart Conditions, such as Heart Failure, Coronary Artery Disease, or Cardiomyopathies
- HIV
- Hypertension
- Immunocompromised State
- Inherited Metabolic Disorders
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- Liver Disease
- Neurologic Conditions
- Obesity, BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²
- Pregnancy

- Severe Genetic Disorders
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Thalassemia

To make an appointment please visit vaccinate.dc.gov or call 855-363-0333.

The District government has been following the CDC's guidance on which populations to include in each vaccination stage. Now that the CDC has included hotel employees in its advisory schedule for Phase 1C, we have had discussions with the Mayor's office to amend its Phase 1C schedule to also include hotel employees. The biggest obstacle to this is the disproportionately low supply of vaccines that have been distributed to the District, as compared to other jurisdictions. With the introduction of the new Johnson & Johnson vaccine, we are hopeful that the District will receive additional vaccinations and increase access to them. HAWDC will continue to work with the Mayor's office regarding the importance of vaccinating our industry's employees. As always, we will continue update members regarding our efforts on this important issue.

Regards,
Lisa