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## KCHD opens up an additional 150 COVID-19 first-dose vaccine appointments

Knoxville, Tenn. – The Knox County Health Department has scheduled 150 additional first-dose COVID-19 vaccine appointments, some of which will take place early next week. The appointments are open and can be filled by qualifying individuals through KCHD's <u>online</u> registration system. Appointments are expected to fill up quickly.

"We know 150 additional appointments doesn't seem like a lot, but that's 150 more people who are able to get this much-needed protection," said Senior Director and Public Health Officer Dr. Martha Buchanan. "Anytime we are able to get vaccine out to our community, even if it's just in small batches, we are going to do it."

These appointments are scheduled for January 19, 20 and 25 at KCHD. The vaccines that will be used for these appointments are additional doses that were allotted for vaccination opportunities this week, but not used. Additional opportunities will continue to be announced as supply allows.

Those without internet or computer access can still make appointments, when available, by calling the KCHD Public Information Line (865-215-5555). Just yesterday, the public information line staff signed up more than 200 qualifying individuals who were without computer/internet access. The rest of the appointments for Jan. 22 were made via the online registration system. KCHD is working to increase call center capacity. More information will be available next week.

When accessing the scheduling website, individuals will be asked to verify they meet current eligibility requirements prior to scheduling an appointment. After reviewing eligibility requirements, individuals will see vaccine clinic locations, dates and available appointments. From there, selecting the appointment and providing necessary personal information will work just as a number of other common appointment scheduling sites work.

At their appointment, individuals will be required to verify their employment (with a work badge that shows a name and/or photo) or age (with a legal form of personal identification, like a drivers' license or passport) before the vaccine is administered.



## **About Knox County Health Department:**

The first health department in Tennessee to achieve national voluntary accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is dedicated to ensuring the conditions in which every resident can be healthy. As a chief health strategist for the community and with more than 240 team members, KCHD's broad scope of work includes convening partners to improve community health, identifying community health threats, investigating disease outbreaks, conducting extensive outreach and education, preparing for public health emergencies, providing and connecting the public with medical care, enforcing food safety and air quality laws, and more. For more information, visit www.knoxcounty.org/health.

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