

Governor Brad Little

**News Release** 

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## All Idahoans over age 16 can access COVID-19 vaccine starting April 5

Boise, Idaho – Governor Brad Little announced his decision today to open up COVID-19 vaccine appointments to all Idahoans over age 16 starting April 5.

Starting April 5, there will be no prioritization of any group of people. All Idahoans over the age of 16, regardless of their age, medical condition, or occupation, will be able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Governor Little also announced that starting March 29, any Idahoan with at least one medical condition will be able to access the COVID-19 vaccine.

"I want to thank the close to 390,000 Idahoans who have chosen to get the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine. You have taken one of the most important steps during our pandemic fight to protect lives and get us closer to normal. Hundreds of thousands of Idahoans have received the vaccine because it is safe and it works," Governor Little said. "If you are still unsure about the vaccine, I encourage you to talk to your doctor or healthcare provider. There are good reasons most of them did not hesitate to receive their COVID vaccine weeks ago – the COVID vaccine has been tested and it is proving to be safe and effective."

Idahoans are encouraged to continue accessing the COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-Registration System at <u>COVIDvaccine.idaho.gov</u>. More than 90,000 individuals have used the tool since it went live on March 5, making life easier and resulting in tens of thousands of appointments.

Idaho still ranks above the national average for getting vaccines administered, with an 82-percent vaccine administration rate. More than 63-percent of Idaho's 65-and-older population have been vaccinated and almost 30-percent of individuals between the ages of 55 and 64 have been vaccinated.

"Folks, with each passing week as more and more Idahoans choose to get vaccinated, we get closer to returning to normal. The COVID vaccine really is our best shot at protecting jobs and saving lives. Please choose to receive the safe and effective vaccine," Governor Little said.

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