



Coronavirus News (COVID-19) System Incident Command

Global Update: 03.11.21

Hello everyone and welcome to the global update.

In this issue we will update you on:

- Updated CDC Guidelines for Those Fully Vaccinated
- Updated Travel Guidelines Clarification/Reminder
- COVID-19 Vaccination Update
 - School Employee and Childcare Provider Vaccinations
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Updated CDC Guidelines for Those Fully Vaccinated

Earlier this week we sent a message about the CDC's updated guidance for those who are fully vaccinated when at home and in public spaces. We want to remind you that this guidance specifically called out healthcare workers and healthcare facilities as an exception to these changes.

Masking, social distancing, and handwashing are all still in place in all Northern Light Health facilities for staff and patients, regardless of vaccination status to help us protect our patients and vulnerable communities.

Updated Travel Guidelines Clarification/Reminder

Last week the state of Maine updated travel guidelines, relaxing the need for testing and reducing the time required for isolation for many states. Please note that not all of these changes apply to all locations, and that healthcare workers in patient facing roles are required to isolate for 14 days after international travel, regardless of COVID-19 test results.

If you have questions or concerns about this, please reach out to your local Human Resources department and Infection Prevention team.

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COVID-19 Vaccination Update

School Employees and Childcare Providers:

Northern Light Health is starting to offer COVID-19 vaccine to school employees and licensed childcare providers. This plan is based on the state's current vaccination plan and guidance.

We are excited to work together with our colleagues at local retail pharmacies to offer vaccinations to educators, we are all in this together to ensure the health and safety of our communities. If community members in this group are unable to book an appointment with us, please do not hesitate to refer them to their local Walgreens, Hannaford, Wal-Mart, or Sam's Club, who have dedicated their full supply of vaccine to this group.

Currently:

- The State of Maine and the Department of Education has asked to reserve a certain number of vaccines for school staff who are 60+. This link is being shared directly by the Department of Education to school administrators to share with staff.
- General registration has opened for school staff and licensed childcare providers of any age on our website using the general scheduling tool, this option is visible as people move through the registration process.

Important information for this vaccination group: They MUST bring identification documenting workplace in the current eligible category, such as a pay stub, work ID, or copy of their license/certification.

Call Center Volunteers:

The vaccine scheduling and information call center needs volunteers. If you would like to help out, please speak with your leader and reach out to Melissa Hafford or Laura Wilkes.

Vaccination Center Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering at a vaccination center, please submit a request by [clicking here](#). You can also share **this** link with friends and family who would like to volunteer.

Employees of Northern Light Health that would like to volunteer at a local vaccination site, should use the contact information below to schedule volunteer shifts. **Please do not share these links with external volunteers who have not completed the screening process linked above. All volunteers must complete screening, including a background check before working a shift.**

- AR Gould/Northern Maine Community College (Presque Isle): [Click here to use their Sign-Up Genius](#).
- EMMC/The Cross Center (Bangor): [Click here to use their Sign-Up genius](#).
- Homecare & Hospice (various locations): Please email [Kim Swanson](#).
- Inland/Kennebec Valley Community College (Fairfield): Please email [Courtney Cook](#) and [Arlene Jones](#).
- Maine Coast (Ellsworth): [Click here to use their Sign-Up Genius](#).
- Mercy/Portland Expo (Portland): [Click here to use their Sign-Up genius](#).

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- Seabasticook Valley/Millennium Event Center (Palmyra): Please email [Sherry Tardy](mailto:Sherry.Tardy)

System Town Hall Reminder

A reminder that our weekly, systemwide town halls are still happening on Fridays at 4 pm - [click here to join](#). These updates offer a great chance to learn more about how we're managing pandemic response, vaccinations, and take the opportunity to ask questions!

How to Stay Informed

- Make sure you are working with your local leaders to understand your response plans and protocols for screening patients.
- Weekly systemwide town halls, [click here to join](#), Fridays at 4 pm. To listen to previous townhalls, select [Town Halls under Resources on the COVID-19 portal](#).
- Refer to the [Northern Light Health and member organization COVID-19 intranet pages](#).
- The most up to date information about COVID-19, can be found on the [Maine CDC](#) and [US CDC](#) websites.
- The CDC and 211 have partnered to create a hotline available by calling 211 or 1-866-811-5695. You can also text your zip code to 898-211 or email info@211maine.org