

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES CIRCULAR

Date: April 30, 2021

CIRCULAR NUMBER: COVID-19 2021-16(r)

To: Community Living disABILITY Services Participants and Service Providers

Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Criteria for Community Living disABILITY Services Participants – **Revised**

Type: ☐ Policy

☒ Procedure

Effective Date: Immediately

New information appears in bold.

Effective immediately, **all** Community Living disABILITY Services (CLDS) participants are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. **All** CLDS participants are eligible to receive the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, while some **are also** eligible to receive the AstraZeneca/Covishield vaccine. Eligibility, the type of vaccine, scheduling and location depend on several factors.

CLDS Participants Who Can Book Appointments through the General Booking Process

CLDS participants who are eligible for COVID-19 vaccination according to the Manitoba government's [current eligibility criteria](#) website for the general public should book their appointment through the general scheduling process.

CLDS participants who meet the eligibility criteria for super-sites and pop-up clinics or community-based eligibility can schedule a Pfizer or Moderna vaccination appointment by calling 1-844-626-8222 or using the [online booking system](#).

CLDS participants who meet the eligibility criteria for medical clinics and pharmacies can schedule an AstraZeneca/Covishield vaccination appointment by calling their medical clinic or pharmacy. CLDS participants can use the [Vaccine Shot Finder](#) to find medical clinics or pharmacies with available doses.

CLDS Participants Who Can Book Appointments through the Department of Families

CLDS participants who do not meet the current eligibility criteria for the general public can schedule a Pfizer or Moderna vaccination appointment at a [super-site or pop-up](#)

[clinic](#) by calling the department's dedicated booking team at **1-888-885-0164**. Note that any CLDS participant can call this number to book an appointment, including those who were already eligible for vaccination due to residing in a congregate group care setting.

CLDS participants will need to provide their name, date of birth, location, Personal Health Identification Number and email (if possible) when booking their appointment. The telephone line is open Monday through Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm. Callers will have the ability to leave a message after hours and weekends.

CLDS Participants Who Are Supported By a Residential Service Provider Agency

For CLDS participants who want to be vaccinated, are uncertain about how to schedule their own appointment and are supported by a residential service provider agency (i.e., shift-staffed home, cluster living arrangement, In the Company of Friends, supported independent living or agency-supported home share), the residential service provider agency can include the participant on a Participant Information Template (PIT) and email it to the Rapid Response Team (RRT) at RRT@gov.mb.ca. The department will then schedule the appointment on behalf of the participant.

Residential service providers are encouraged to email PITs through the Secure Email Transfer Service (SETS), wherever possible. The PIT is attached to this circular.

CLDS Participants Who Are Unable to Travel

CLDS participants who want to be vaccinated, but cannot travel to a vaccination site due to their disability, will be eligible for vaccination at their residence at a later date when vaccines that are more transportable become widely available.

Consent

All CLDS participants who want to be vaccinated must complete a [COVID-19 Vaccine Consent Form](#), regardless of which vaccine the participant receives. CLDS participants who have the Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) as Substitute Decision Maker (SDM) for personal care must also obtain a support letter from their physician/nurse practitioner. **While not required, the department strongly encourages all other participants to obtain a support letter.**

For CLDS participants with the PGT as SDM for personal care, the department requires copies of the completed consent form (other than Sections C and D) and support letter, as the department obtains PGT consent. **The following applies in cases where the PGT is SDM:**

- If the CLDS participant is supported by a residential service provider agency, the residential service provider agency must fax the completed consent form (other than Sections C and D) and support letters to the RRT at 204-948-4511.
- If the CLDS participant is not supported by a residential service provider agency (e.g., private home share, on their own or with family), the participant's Community Service Worker will obtain the consent form (other than Sections C and D) and support letter from the participant and submit it to the RRT.

Note: CLDS participants who have the PGT as SDM for personal care, but have the legal

authority to make their own decision regarding vaccination, can provide their own consent. In these situations, consent forms should not be submitted to the RRT.

For detailed information and instructions about consent and support letters, please refer to Circular COVID-19 2021-17(r) – Obtaining Consent for COVID-19 Vaccinations.

More Information

CLDS participants must bring their signed consent forms, support letters (if applicable) and Manitoba Health Card (or another type of identification) to the vaccination site. CLDS participants should also wear a short sleeved shirt. **Service provider staff or a support network member can accompany the participant to assist them at the vaccination site, if required.**

Please note the department is only scheduling first doses of the vaccine at this time.

For general information about the COVID-19 vaccines, visit: www.manitoba.ca/vaccine. For answers to frequently asked questions, visit: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/faq.html>.

If you have any questions about vaccinations or the consent process, please contact the RRT by email at RRT@gov.mb.ca or telephone at 1-866-906-0901.

Attachment: Participant Information Template