



Health Alert Network Message 21-44: One-Time COVID-19 Provider Vaccine Return Procedure

Origination Date:
May 27, 2021

Revision Dates (List All Revision Dates):

ONE-TIME COVID-19 PROVIDER VACCINE RETURN PROCEDURE

With lower vaccination demand there may be COVID-19 vaccine providers that have excess vaccines that they will be unable to administer before it reaches its expiration. **There is now a one-time option for any COVID-19 vaccination provider to return unused viable COVID-19 vaccine to the state of Louisiana. These doses must be returned to the Regional Health Office by June 2, 2021.** In order for the vaccine doses to be eligible for return, they must meet the following criteria:

1. **Any return must include at least 30 doses of any individual COVID-19 vaccine product (Pfizer, Moderna, and/or Johnson & Johnson).**
2. **Doses being returned must have an expiration date that is beyond June 30, 2021.**
3. **The doses being returned are either frozen or refrigerated.**
4. **Any returned doses must have been maintained at proper storage temperatures throughout the time they were in the returning provider's possession.**
5. **Any returned doses with an expiration date different than indicated by the manufacturer, due to the vaccine's storage condition, should be clearly indicated. This true beyond-use date must be accounted for in the June 30th minimum expiration date and relayed to regional staff when coordinating the pick-up.**
6. **The doses being returned must be returned with the matching amount of ancillary supplies provided at the initial delivery.**

To initiate the COVID-19 vaccine return process with the State of Louisiana, please contact your Regional Immunization Consultant (see contact information listed below) as soon as possible:

Region 1: (Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard)

Amanda Melancon

504-599-0128

Amanda.Melancon@la.gov

Region 2: (Ascension, E. Baton Rouge, E. Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, W. Baton Rouge, W. Feliciana)

Cindy Aydell

225-342-2046

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Region 3: (Assumption, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, Terrebonne)

Laurie Lapeyrouse

985-447-0916 Ext. 350

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Region 4: (Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, Vermilion)

Amelia "Amy" Landry

337-262-5620

Amelia.Landry@la.gov

Region 5: (Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis)

Shonna McCarthy-Lewis

337-475-3245

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Region 6: (Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon, Winn)

Kevin Bonton

318-484-2161

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Region 7: (Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Webster)

Peggy Burkett

318-676-7474

Peggy.Burkett@LA.GOV

Region 8: (Caldwell, E. Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, W. Carroll)

Joy Jordan

318-361-7217

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Region 9: (Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington)

John Lyons

985-543-4857

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Regional Immunization Consultants will work directly with providers to coordinate all aspects of the return and will arrange for the returned vaccine to be picked up by a transport team working on behalf of the state. With any vaccine that is returned, the state will first work to identify other providers who can administer the doses.

When returning eligible vaccine to the state, ancillary kits (same quantity as the doses) are also expected as part of the return process.

For providers that have unneeded vaccines that are not eligible for return to the state, they should continue to vaccinate as many patients as possible before the vaccine expires. The

Louisiana Office of Public Health (OPH) understands that some vaccine loss may be unavoidable, but every good faith attempt should be made to locate patients to administer all remaining doses in inventory with approaching expiration dates.

This is currently a one-time offer to COVID-19 vaccine providers, so we encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity if you have doses of vaccine you cannot use. OPH sincerely appreciates your dedication to preventing disease with vaccination and encourages you to continue your efforts.