



THE FIRE CALL

A publication of the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts

January - March 2021

Vol. 68, Issue 1
(USPS 017-356)

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THE FIRE CALL is published four times a year in the interest of Fire Protection Districts by the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts (IAFPD).

Periodic Postage Paid at Springfield, IL and at additional mailing offices.
Postmaster - Send address changes to:

IAFPD
1201 S. 6th Street - Springfield, IL 62703
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About the Cover:

The COVID-19 vaccine is a critical tool to safely reach the other side of this pandemic. Through efficient and effective distribution of the vaccine, we can suppress the spread of the virus, save as many lives as possible, and rebuild our economy. Illinois will only distribute a vaccine that is deemed safe. As we move through phases of vaccine distribution, the administration will ensure it reaches Illinoisans as quickly as possible using an equity-centric approach as we have done throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. As we move forward, it is critical that Illinoisans continue to follow public health recommendations to suppress the spread of the virus until vaccines are ready for widespread distribution. The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) — an esteemed group of public health experts and medical professionals — develops recommendations on how to use vaccines to control disease in the United States. The Committee's recommendations are then approved by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

With the demand for COVID-19 vaccines expected to exceed supply during the first months of the national COVID-19 vaccination program, ACIP recommended the following priority groups – those at the highest risk of exposure, morbidity and mortality – receive the first doses of vaccines before the general public:

Phase 1A: health care personnel and residents of long-term care facilities

Phase 1B: persons aged ≥75 years and non-health care frontline essential workers

Source: <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccination-plan>



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