



**NEVADA  
HEALTH  
RESPONSE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Meghin Delaney

Communications Director

CONTACT: [pressroom@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov](mailto:pressroom@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov)

**COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 3-19-2021**

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Candice McDaniel, Health Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Child, Family, and Community Wellness were joined by Superintendent Jhone Ebert from the Nevada Department of Education to provide an update on COVID-19 efforts and education in the state.

This bulletin provides facts, figures, and informational items from the call. As a reminder, data is provided in a dashboard on the home page of the [Nevada Health Response](#) website and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

**SUMMARY:**

- As of today, Nevada has logged 300,660 cases, with the 14-day rolling average of daily cases being 209.
- Nevada has now completed a total of 2,869,928 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19.
- The test positivity rate over the last 14 days is 5.1%.
- The Nevada Hospital Association is reporting there are currently 337 COVID-19 hospitalizations (272 confirmed; 65 suspected).

- The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Analytics COVID-19 Dashboard has been live for one year, as of today.
- This office has been instrumental in the response to COVID-19 and continues to be a vital part of Nevada's recovery efforts.
- As of March 18, 1,039,389 COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered and reported to Nevada WebIZ.
- Next Monday, March 22, vaccination eligibility begins for anyone 16 and older with an underlying health condition, statewide.
- There will not be enough vaccine doses available for everyone next week, but eligibility will be open, and Nevadans are asked to continue to be patient.
- Anyone who fits into this category are encouraged to try to make an appointment as soon as they are able. [NVCOVIDFighter.org](https://nvcovidfighter.org) is continually updated with information on where and how to make appointments in each county.
- If there are not appointments available when you first check, please try again. As more vaccine are delivered to the State, additional appointments will be available.
- The immunization program is working closely with retail pharmacies to serve this critical group, but please continue to be patient. The biggest factor in appointment availability will continue to be the limited allocation received in Nevada from the federal government.
- As Nevada developed the Vaccine Playbook and worked with partners statewide, including the Board of Pharmacy, it was determined this

population with underlying conditions would be best served in a pharmacy or medical setting.

- It provides an opportunity to ask questions and speak with someone familiar with an individual's medical history if there are any concerns during the process.
- The availability of the vaccine is constantly changing, and residents should continue to check the scheduling websites.
- As always, Nevadans are encouraged to check out [NVCovidFighter.org](https://www.nvcovidfighter.org) or call 1-800-401-0946 for the latest information on vaccine eligibility and appointment availability in their county.

### **Department of Education**

- Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Sisolak and the Nevada Department of Education have remained committed to prioritizing equitable access to in-person learning for all students.
- Nevada started the school year with five districts offering in-person learning for all students. As of March 1, school buildings in all 17 school districts are open for in-person learning for some or all students.
- Emergency Directive 038, districts and schools have been able to welcome even more students back to school buildings. The Directive increased capacity in school settings to 75% and decreased social distancing for all students to 3 feet.
- The State maintains expectations for students and adults to wear face coverings as well as conduct regular cleaning and sanitation to ensure

safe and healthy learning environments.

- As of February 2021, the Nevada Division of Emergency Management has provided over 4.5 million items of PPE to public, private, charter, and tribal schools throughout Nevada
- In addition, increasing capacity on school transportation from 50 to 66% enables school districts to better support children and families.
- A few weeks ago President Biden directed states to prioritize vaccines for educators, Nevada prioritized school staff for vaccines in the State's distribution plan from the very start.
- As of February 26, 2021, all school personnel in the State have either received their first and/or second vaccination, are scheduled to get vaccinated, or have had the opportunity to access vaccination under this priority group.
- The education system has come a long way in a relatively short time thanks to unprecedented collaboration.
- Superintendent Ebert expressed her appreciation to Nevadans for wearing their masks and preventing community spread so we can continue to put Nevada's kids first.

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