

## Timeline Outlined for Lifting COVID-19 Restrictions + Bringing Summer Back Campaign



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**Date** 2021-04-23 11:05

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# COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) NC UPDATE

*April 23, 2021*

### [Timeline Outlined for Lifting State's COVID-19 Restrictions and Bringing Summer Back Campaign](#)

Governor Roy Cooper and NCDHHS Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D. [laid out a timeline](#) for lifting current pandemic restrictions. With stable trends and continued vaccination success, the state expects to lift mandatory social distancing, capacity, and mass gathering restrictions by June 1. The Governor plans to issue an executive order next week outlining safety restrictions for the month of May.

"Each shot in an arm is a step closer to putting this pandemic in the rearview mirror," said Governor Cooper. "North Carolinians have shown up for each other throughout this entire pandemic and we need to keep up that commitment by getting our vaccines."

NCDHHS also [announced](#) the [Bringing Summer Back](#) get-out-the-vaccine campaign to engage community organizations across the state to fully vaccinate as many people as possible by summer.

The Bringing Summer Back campaign is a fun, flexible and community-centered approach that creates a space for every organization and individual to roll up their sleeves and do their part to stop the spread of COVID-19 and get everyone back to the people and places they love.

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The campaign will run during two weeks in May and two weeks in June, during which organizations across the state will rally together to promote vaccination. Organizations that would like to get involved can register to participate and access toolkit materials [here](#) (for Spanish [here](#)) or by emailing [BringingSummerBack@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:BringingSummerBack@dhhs.nc.gov).

As of Thursday, 47.5 percent of adults are at least partially vaccinated, and 36.8 percent are fully vaccinated. More than 76 percent of people 65 and older have had at least one shot.

Remember, all adults are now eligible fore the COVID-19 vaccine in North Carolina. Visit [MySpot.nc.gov](https://MySpot.nc.gov) to make an appointment and [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov) (English) or [Vacunate.nc.gov](https://Vacunate.nc.gov) (Spanish) for more information about the vaccines, including answers to [frequently asked questions](#). You can also contact the COVID-19 Vaccine Help Center toll-free at **1-888-675-4567**.

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### **Let's Keep It Up**



North Carolinians: Thank you for doing the work to slow the spread of COVID-19. Until we're protected by the vaccines, let's keep protecting each other. ([Spanish version](#)).

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### **NC Federally Supported COVID-19 Vaccination Center Surpasses 100,000 Doses Administered**

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More than 100,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been [administered](#) through the federally supported vaccination center that opened March 10, 2021 in Greensboro. The center has been successful in reaching underserved communities with recipients praising the staff and service.

"This vaccination center has been a model site showcasing the best of local, state and federal partnerships. And it has demonstrated how instrumental on-the-ground, trusted partners are to reaching historically underserved communities and facilitating access to vaccines," said NCDHHS Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D.

Federal and state partners have worked closely with community-based organizations in the area to ensure vaccine appointments for underserved communities. Of the doses administered to date at the Four Seasons Town Centre, more than 22% have gone to Black or African American individuals, who make up 23% of North Carolina's population, and more than 15% to people from Hispanic/LatinX communities, who make up almost 10% of the state's population.

The clinic will be extended through May 27 and will continue to provide the Pfizer vaccine. While appointments are encouraged and available online at [GSOmassvax.org](https://www.gsomassvax.org) or by phone at 888-675-4567, walk-in and drive-up vaccines are also available without appointment.

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### **[NCDHHS, NC Counts Coalition Announce \\$500K in Grants to Support Equitable COVID-19 Response](#)**

[Healthier Together](#), a public-private partnership between NCDHHS and NC Counts Coalition, is [releasing](#) a Request for Proposals for community-based organizations to apply for grants ranging from \$5,000 - \$20,000 (or up to \$50,000 for collaborative proposals). Grants will support groups that will help North Carolina achieve its goal of delivering equitable access to vaccines.

Funds will go to organizations supporting NC communities that experience health inequities to ensure that individuals from Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and other historically marginalized populations are able to access vaccines. Grants will fund activities to conduct vaccine outreach and education efforts, help people schedule appointments and arrange transportation, coordinate local vaccine events at trusted and accessible locations, provide on-site interpretation services and help ensure people get to second dose appointments. The application period opens Tuesday, April 27 and ends Friday, May 14 at 11:59 p.m.

Interested organizations can participate in an informational online webinar with the NC Counts Coalition on Monday, April 26, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The webinar will be available in Spanish, American Sign Language (ASL) and closed captioning, and will be recorded for later viewing. Potential grantees can register for the webinar [here](#). For more

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information, for to the [NC Counts Coalition website](#).

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### [Homebound Vaccine Providers](#)



Are you looking for a vaccine for a person who is homebound? NCDHHS has created [a list](#) of vaccine providers in North Carolina who are able to vaccinate homebound people. Please reach out to vaccine providers on [this list](#) to ask about their current availability for homebound vaccinations - some may not currently be offering homebound vaccinations.

No matter the circumstance, everyone has a spot to take their shot!

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### **NCDHHS: COVID-19 Vaccine Communications Toolkit**

You can help people in your community find their spot and take their shot. NCDHHS has created a [one-stop shop](#) for ready-made materials to help you communicate about safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines.

Anyone who is sharing information about the COVID-19 vaccine with their community, including health care professionals, team leaders, community and business leaders and non-profit organizations, can use and adapt the [resources](#) to build confidence in the COVID-19 vaccines.

The toolkit will be updated frequently with sample social media posts, graphics and other materials for you and your organization to use. It is also available in [Spanish](#).

For more information, go to [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](#).

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## COVID-19 Testing

Testing is just as important as ever to curb the spread of COVID-19. Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, has been around people outside of their household or thinks they have been exposed to the virus should get [tested](#).

Getting a test has never been easier! North Carolina has upcoming no-cost community testing events scheduled throughout the state, including sites that offer rapid testing. For an up-to-date list of events, visit the [No-Cost Testing Events](#) webpage. For more details about a specific event, call ahead before you go for a test.

COVID-19 testing is also provided at some local health departments, doctor and clinician offices, hospitals and clinics, many pharmacy sites and retail outlets, and other community locations. You can find testing sites by using the [Find My Testing Place](#) tool online.

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## Get the Latest Information

- Visit the [NCDHHS COVID-19 website](#) for information, a [data dashboard](#), [updates](#), [live briefings](#) and more.
- Go to [North Carolina's COVID-19 Information Hub](#) for resources, information and assistance across state government, including the latest [news releases](#).
- Check out [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](#) to learn more about [finding your spot](#) to get your spot, [videos](#) about the COVID-19 vaccine, and other resources.
- Follow NCDHHS on [social media](#) for advance notice of press briefings and a recap.



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