

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Scott A. Rivkees, MD**  
State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

12/30/2020

## COVID-19 VACCINATIONS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE AT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**Contact:**

DT Simmons, Public Information Officer

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(850) 653-2111

**Apalachicola and Port St. Joe, FL** – The Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf Counties are committed to controlling and preventing the spread of COVID-19. Due to heavy demand, we are currently out of COVID-19 vaccinations. We are collaborating with our state and federal partners to acquire more vaccinations to meet the needs of our community. Securing and distributing a COVID-19 vaccine is a top priority for the Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf Counties.

Currently we are uncertain when our counties will be allocated additional vaccines for unvaccinated individuals and are therefore **not scheduling new COVID-19 vaccine appointments**. For all non-COVID vaccine appointments in Franklin please dial (850) 653-2111 or in Gulf County call us at (850)227-1276 from the hours of 8:00am – 5:00pm. Please be advised that, due to heavy call volume, callers may experience longer than average wait times. Please note that we will be closed this Thursday and Friday in observance of the New Year holiday. Thank you in advance for your patience.

We encourage all patients currently scheduled for vaccinations to not arrive early for their appointment in order to refrain from overcrowding our lobbies, parking lots and waiting areas.

The Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf County is committed to providing timely and important updates regarding the distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine. To receive local COVID19 updates including information on vaccinations, please text “**FranklinCV19**” to **888777** in Franklin County or “**GULFCOVID**” to **888777** in Gulf County.

We encourage our community to continue to practicing COVID-19 prevention guidelines to [protect yourself and others](#). This includes:

- Wearing a mask
- Staying at least six feet away from others
- Avoiding crowds
- Washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol

**Florida Department of Health in Gulf County**

2475 Garrison Avenue • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456  
PHONE: 850-227-1276 • FAX 850-227-7587

**Florida Department of Health in Franklin County**

139-12<sup>th</sup> Street • Apalachicola, Florida 32320  
PHONE: 850-653-2111 • FAX 850-653-1727

**FloridaHealth.gov**



**Accredited Health Department**  
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- Staying home when you're sick, and
- Following any applicable workplace guidance.

For more information on vaccination efforts around the state, visit Florida's new COVID-19 Vaccine Report that will be updated daily at [FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov](https://www.floridahealth.gov/covid-19/vaccine-report). This report includes a breakdown of who has received the vaccine by age, race, sex and county.

## **ABOUT COVID-19**

COVID-19 transmission is more commonly spread from person to person through small droplets from the nose or mouth, including when an individual coughs or sneezes. A person can get COVID-19 by touching droplets that can land on objects and surfaces and then touching their eyes, nose or mouth, although, this is a less common mode of transmission. The vast majority of cases have come from close, sustained contact with an individual with COVID-19.

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea. Symptoms may appear in as few as two days or as many as 14 days following exposure. Most people recover from the COVID-19 without needing special treatment. The elderly and those with underlying medical problems like high blood pressure, heart problems and diabetes, and those with compromised immune systems are more likely to develop serious illness.

For any other questions related to COVID-19 in Florida, please contact the Department's dedicated COVID-19 Call Center by calling [\(866\) 779-6121](tel:8667796121). **The Call Center is available 24 hours per day.** Inquiries may also be emailed to [COVID-19@flhealth.gov](mailto:COVID-19@flhealth.gov).

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## **About the Florida Department of Health**

The Florida Department of Health, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](https://www.ncaahq.org/), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on Twitter at [@HealthyFranklin](https://twitter.com/HealthyFranklin) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/HealthyFranklin). For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit [www.FloridaHealth.gov](https://www.floridahealth.gov).