

**From:** Valeree Lane  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2021 3:42 PM  
**To:** Jessica Dale; Kellie Hansen; Jennifer Little  
**Subject:** Vaccine update: (The Oregonian coverage) Oregon to start COVID-19 vaccinations of teachers Jan. 25, seniors 80+ to wait to Feb. 8

# Oregon to start COVID-19 vaccinations of teachers Jan. 25, seniors 80+ to wait to Feb. 8

By [Aimee Green | The Oregonian/OregonLive](#)

Gov. Kate Brown still plans to allow teachers and other K-12 educators in Oregon to be immunized against COVID-19 beginning this month despite news Friday that the federal government won't significantly ramp up vaccine shipments to Oregon in the near future.

Brown's new plan calls for school employees to be eligible for vaccines starting Jan. 25, two days later than announced earlier this week. Oregonians age 80 and older will have to wait until Feb. 8, about two weeks later than previously announced, with eligibility for those 75, 70 and 65 and older to follow in phases.

"I remain committed to vaccinating our seniors quickly," Brown said Friday.

The announcement comes after a wild 24 hours in which state officials learned that a Tuesday pledge from the federal government to boost vaccine shipments to the state wouldn't become reality and the governor pondered whether she would go through with plans to open up vaccinations to Oregonians age 65 and older and childcare, preschool and K-12 educators starting Jan. 23.

On Tuesday, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar urged all states to start vaccinating Americans who are 65 or older and people with underlying conditions that put them at higher risk for serious complications from COVID-19 -- saying the federal government would ship second doses held in reserve.

Brown said she confirmed Thursday evening the additional shipments weren't coming, or if they are, it will be a much smaller number than anticipated. But Friday, state officials said they think under current planned allotments of the vaccines they will be able to expand inoculations to educators and then seniors two weeks later.

"Their empty promises are literally playing with people's lives," Brown said Friday.

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