



MEDIA AVAILABILITY

Thursday, April 22, 2021

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State: 7,500 new first-dose Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine appointments now available at Ford Field starting TODAY through Monday, April 26

WHO: Protect Michigan Commission Director **Kerry Ebersole Singh**

WHEN: **Thursday, April 22, 2021**

Director Singh is available for Zoom or phone interviews on a first-come, first-served basis from:

- **8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**
- **10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**
- **12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

WHAT: **Announcement that Michigan is opening up at least 7,500 opportunities for people to get Pfizer COVID-19 first-dose vaccinations at Ford Field.** As of April 22, Michigan is at Day 2 of Week 5 in the Ford Field mass vaccination clinic campaign – just past the halfway point. In Weeks 1-4, Ford Field staff have administered 148,683 doses at the site. First doses of Pfizer given today (April 22) through Monday (April 26) will have their second dose three weeks later at Ford Field in Week 8, the last week of operations.

Michigan is opening up to offer 7,500 more first doses of Pfizer to provide additional opportunities to residents who may not have had access thus far, to maximize “shots-in-arm” operations at Ford Field, and as part of the state’s contingency plan if the Johnson & Johnson vaccination isn’t available in Weeks 7-8. FEMA and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) are waiting for the final decision from the FDA before finalizing their strategy for Weeks 7 and 8.

Director Singh also wants to remind people who *HAVE* registered and have gotten their vaccine elsewhere by now, that if they get a text or phone message from Meijer offering them an appointment, they can decline that appointment so that the invite will go to the next person on the registration list. FEMA chose Ford Field in Detroit as one of 20 regional vaccination sites across the country. Henry Ford Health System is the medical director, and with the support of Meijer along with county and city agencies, the site is using the

Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention's social vulnerability index to serve minority and economically disadvantaged communities and is open to anyone who meets the state's vaccine eligibility.

How to Register for a Vaccine at Ford Field

There are three options to register for a vaccine:

- Text "EndCOVID" to 75049
- Go to <https://clinic.meijer.com/register/CL2021>
- Residents who don't have access to the internet or who need assistance navigating the vaccine registration process can call the MDHHS COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136 (press 1) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. To minimize call center wait times, people should only call if they cannot use the web or text options.

The vaccine is offered at no cost and insurance is not required. Free parking is available at the Ford Field vaccination site.

Please note: The Ford Field site offers translation services including ASL onsite for those who may have had difficulty accessing vaccines through other sites.

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