

NEWS RELEASE

North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System | Office of Communication & Outreach



For immediate release

February 17, 2021

North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System expands COVID-19 Vaccination Criteria

NORTH FL/SOUTH GA. As we continue to respond to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, our team is working diligently to vaccinate Veterans as quickly as possible with our available supply of the COVID-19 Vaccine.

North Florida/ South Georgia Veterans Health System (NF/SGVHS) is expanding its criteria to include additional Veterans. The COVID-19 vaccine is now being offered to enrolled and eligible Veterans who receive care from VA in the following categories:

- **NEW!!** Veterans under the age of 65 with high risk conditions that increase the risk of serious, life-threatening complications from COVID-19. **These conditions include** [obesity](#), [diabetes](#), [COPD](#), [sickle cell disease](#), [kidney disease](#), [smoking](#), [cancer](#) and [heart disease](#).
- Veterans over the age of 65
- High Risk Veterans: Homeless Veterans, Hemodialysis patients, Solid Organ Transplant patients, or patients enlisted for transplant, and Chemotherapy patient (receiving chemotherapy in a clinic/hospital setting) of any age
- Veterans employed as essential workers (fire fighter, police officers, corrections officer, food and agricultural workers, United States Postal Service workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the educational sector (Teachers, support staff, and daycare workers), of any age. *Documentation Required.*

Veterans who are enrolled and eligible who fall into one of the current categories, can call **352-548-6000 ext. 103755**, to schedule an appointment. If the vaccine is not available at their preferred site of care, Veterans are encouraged to schedule an appointment to receive the vaccine at another NF/SGVHS location or be vaccinated though a no appointment needed drive thru/walk up event (*while supplies last*).

The COVID-19 vaccine will help protect you, other Veterans and our staff by lowering the risk of getting an infection. Vaccines will also slow the spread of the virus protecting our families, friends, and neighbors. Even after being vaccinated, it's important to continue wearing a mask, washing your hands, and staying at least 6 feet from others who don't live with you.

As supply increases and we have offered vaccine to interested Veterans who meet our current criteria, additional groups of Veterans will have the opportunity to schedule an appointment. We thank you for your patience. Visit our website for more information: [COVID-19 Vaccines - North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System](#)

*"...to care for him who shall have borne the battle
and his widow, and his orphan..."*
- President Abraham Lincoln



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System

Malcom Randall and Lake City VA Medical Center's

1601 Southwest Archer Road | Gainesville, FL 32608-1135 | PH: 352-376-1611

619 South Marion Avenue | Lake City, FL 32025-5808 | PH: 386-755-3016

The North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System is one of the nation's leading VA healthcare systems, employing more than 5,600 medical professionals and support staff dedicated to providing high quality care to Veterans residing throughout north Florida and south Georgia. The organization operates fifteen facilities to include two medical centers located in Gainesville and Lake City, and clinics located throughout a 50-county catchment area.

To learn more about the facilities and services offered by the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System, please visit www.northflorida.va.gov or "like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/VANFSG>, or follow us on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/VANFSG/>

For any questions about the content of this message, please contact the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System Office of Public Affairs at 352-348-7130 or email vhanflpublicaffairs@va.gov.