

The PA Department of Health has announced it will conduct statewide clinics from Nov. 20–22 to administer free H1N1 vaccine to individuals in the recommended target groups that have not had previous access to the vaccine.

Individuals in the recommended target groups must schedule an appointment time, day and location prior to the clinic in order to receive the H1N1 vaccine. This will help ensure that the correct type and amount of vaccine is available at each location.

The department asks that **only individuals in the following groups attend the clinics:**

Individuals between the ages of six months and 24 years;
Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than six months;
Pregnant women;
Healthcare providers and emergency medical services personnel;
Individuals under 65 years of age with underlying health conditions, including asthma, diabetes, suppressed immune systems, heart disease, kidney disease, and neurocognitive and neuromuscular disorders.

The local clinic will be held at Reading State Office Building, 625 Cherry St., Room 401, Reading 19602. Clinic hours on Friday, Nov. 20 and Sunday, Nov. 22 will be 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Hours on Saturday, Nov. 21, will be 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Appointments can be made at www.H1N1inPA.com under “What’s Hot,” 24 hours a day. Individuals without internet access can call 1-877-PA HEALTH (1-877-724-3258) between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Lines are limited.

Anyone seeking vaccination should download an H1N1 vaccine consent form from www.h1n1inPA.com. Consent forms must be completed for each individual that has scheduled to be vaccinated. Preparing this form in advance will help the clinics more quickly register and vaccinate people.

As more vaccine becomes available, the department will schedule additional clinics throughout the state.

Visit www.H1N1inPA.com to learn more about priority groups, potential vaccine side effects and other important information.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that eventually there will be enough vaccine for everyone who wants to receive it, but that may be several months away.

CHECK www.flutoolbox.com FOR OTHER DETAILS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.