



LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

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WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE #26

December 30, 2020

Dear licensees,

LSBEP has received numerous questions and concerns about the COVID-19 Vaccine. Therefore, we hope this Weekly Wednesday Update will provide some information on this process.

The Louisiana Department of Health is coordinating the COVID-19 vaccine distribution effort in Louisiana. Although the LSBEP has no access to vaccines and is not involved in vaccine management, distribution, or decision making, the LSBEP has been in communication with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) and has offered any assistance that may be useful as the vaccine roll out continues (e.g.: verifying licenses). We have been advised by LDH that:

- The current distribution plan prioritizes hospital staff and those in long-term care facilities. This was established by a federal advisory group, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), and is being followed by Louisiana.
- Because there are still many unknowns about the quantities of vaccine that will come to Louisiana and the timing of those deliveries, additional priorities have not been firmly established by LDH, including when it will be available to clinicians such as psychologists.
- This is a fluid process, and priorities may change depending on the amount of vaccine that becomes available to Louisiana.
- LDH is hopeful that after the initial deliveries of vaccines, they will begin receiving enough vaccines to make the shots widely available.
- As LDH learns more information about future shipments of the vaccine to Louisiana, they will provide information about how and when it will be distributed via their website at <https://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/4042> and LDH's Health Alert Network.

You may also find the following resources useful to you as the vaccination process continues:

- Please pay special attention to the prioritization guidelines and categories: https://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/Vaccine/COVID_Vaccine_FAQs.pdf
- Please pay special attention to the section on LDH's decision making based on CDC committee recommendations for prioritized groups: https://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/Vaccine/COVID_Vaccine_WhatYouNeedToKnow.pdf

As always, thank you for your commitment to the health and safety of your clients, patients and others with whom you interact during this unprecedented public health emergency. Should additional information become available to us, we will be sure to share that with licensees.

Sincerely,

LSBEP Executive Committee

Amy Henke, Psy.D., Chairperson
Jaime T. Monic, Executive Director

NOTICE: In compliance with Act 655 of the 2018 Regular Session, the LSBEP hereby gives notice to its licensees and applicants of their opportunity to file a complaint about board actions and board procedures. You may submit such complaints to one or more of the following organizations:

- Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists: **Submit in writing to:** LSBEP, 4334 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., #C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70816; admin.lsbep@la.gov; (225)295-8410
- Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives: **Submit to:** H&GA@legis.la.gov or Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives, PO Box 44486, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225) 342-2403
- Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate: **Submit to:** s&g@legis.la.gov or Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate PO Box 94183, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225)342-9845

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