



# MEDIA RELEASE

## San Juan County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 04, 2021

### UPDATE ON VACCINE REGISTRATION

#### BASICS:

Please visit the [San Juan County COVID Vaccine Page](#) for critical details. Continue reading below for more in-depth information.

As San Juan County Health & Community Services continues to provide vaccine to the islands (many other local providers are also now delivering vaccine!) the registration process has been frustrating for many.

While those who can secure an appointment have had a smooth experience, those who have not are left wishing there was a better way.

The good news is that the County is switching to a new system. That said, some existing challenges will remain. Overall, it is an improvement. Here are the details:

-The new registration tool is called PrepMod and is managed by WA Department of Health. The tool is being used by jurisdictions across the country including Los Angeles County, the states of Massachusetts, Alaska, and many more. DOH has recently given approval for it to be used by San Juan County.

-As before, reservations will be released at a set time (**next release time will be Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm**). The registration link is: <https://prepmod.doh.wa.gov/clinic/search>, and the link is also included in Step 2 on the [COVID Vaccine Page](#). Please note, it will not be possible to find or book appointments in San Juan County until the set time that reservations open.

-At this time, it is not known how many doses of vaccine will arrive for next week's vaccine events. That number will be posted to the [COVID Vaccine Page](#) once available – most likely the morning of February 5<sup>th</sup>.

-A video with clear instructions on registering is available here: <https://youtu.be/PZKxzXbZnas>. It is highly recommended that you view the video before registering.

#### KEY THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

1. Only those who are currently eligible to receive vaccine may register. Please use the Phase Finder tool at <http://www.findyourphasewa.org/> if you are not sure of your eligibility. Note that using this tool does not book your registration or add you to a waitlist.
2. The initial appointment search screen will list vaccine events state-wide. Once San Juan County reservations are open (**Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm**), enter your zip code and a radius of 15 miles and you will see all current vaccine events in San Juan County.

3. Each vaccine event will display the number of available appointments. If that number is zero, you will not be able to register.
4. If slots are available, you will be asked to enter detailed information (again, please view the [instructional video](#)). If multiple people are in the system at the same time, those slots may fill before the registration process is complete. This is certainly not ideal, but we have been informed that Department of Health is working with PrepMod to try to address this challenge.
5. If you do secure an appointment, you will see [this notification](#), and then receive a [confirmation email](#) (be sure to check your spam folder!)

## OVERALL SUMMARY OF THE PREPMOD SYSTEM:

### IMPROVEMENTS

- Improved user interface.
- Eliminates possibility of double bookings.
- Better (but not perfect) indication of when all slots are full.
- Drastically improved experience when receiving vaccine- no longer any need for paper forms.
- Automated system improves time to deliver a dose, leading to quicker vaccine delivery (once supplies are available).

### CHALLENGES

- Many will find that no appointments are left by the time they complete the registration process. Hopefully DOH will find a fix for this.
- There is no waitlist capability.

NOTE: We recognize that these are significant challenges. Hopefully the PrepMod tool continues to improve, and things will become less frustrating as supply increases.

For now, demand far exceeds supply. [Please take a look at this Q&A video](#) for a more detailed look at the San Juan County vaccine delivery process.

Thank you, islanders, for your ongoing patience and diligence during this difficult time.