

# FEMA Focuses on Equitable Vaccination Availability in Southern Colorado

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DENVER – In keeping with the foundation of FEMA's mission to help people, the federal vaccination site in Pueblo is expanding its efforts. In addition to the main facility at the Colorado State Fairgrounds, temporary pop-up locations will be set up to reach more individuals. Pre-scheduling appointments are encouraged but not necessary, walk up service is available at these locations. This effort is intended to increase vaccination opportunities and help ensure equitable vaccine access to residents of Pueblo and surrounding communities.

Focused outreach includes working with Pueblo County School Districts 60 and 70 to bring vaccination clinics to schools within their footprint. This outreach made vaccinations available for students age 16 and up, parents, guardians and others in the community to receive the vaccine at a more convenient time and place. The first two events were held at Pueblo West and Rye High Schools on April 20 and 21.

"This is a busy time of year, especially for students," said Nancy Dragani, acting Regional Administrator. "Collaborating with school districts and other partners to bring vaccination clinics to students and neighborhoods is one more way we are making vaccines available to everyone."

In addition to several schools in the area, an upcoming event is planned at Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church. More events are being scheduled at schools, churches, and community centers across the Pueblo area.

This site is the only federal pilot site in the State of Colorado and FEMA Region 8. It includes an Army medical team and other support units.

