

Higher education workers soon eligible for vaccine

Jordyn Brown Register-Guard
and **Natalie Pate** Register-Guard
USA TODAY NETWORK

Higher education workers will be included in the next phase of Oregon's COVID-19 vaccine priority list, making them and many other front-line workers eligible no later than May 1.

Gov. Kate Brown announced new groups in the state's Phase 1b vaccine rollout in late February. The announcement prompted institutions like the University of Oregon and Oregon State University to plan for in-person classes come fall and start preparing to host mass vaccination clinics.

People 65 and older, healthcare workers, K-12 teachers and other certain categories of individuals are currently eligible for the vaccine.

The next group — which includes ages 45 to 64 with underlying health conditions, migrant and seasonal farmworkers, houseless people and those displaced by wildfires — will be eligible no later than March 29.

Front-line workers such as those at

colleges and universities will be eligible in Oregon no later than May 1. The vaccine will be available to the general public by July 1.

"Yes, you are hearing me correctly: Come summer, provided supplies from the federal government continue as planned, any Oregonian who wants the vaccine will be eligible to receive it," Brown said during the announcement. "And while that gives us all a reason to breathe a sigh of relief, it should also serve as a reminder that the finish line is in sight, and we cannot let up."

Because of this assurance, UO's President Michael Schill announced they would return classes to being predominantly in-person come fall.

Schill said in his announcement that hundreds of UO employees already have been vaccinated due to their overlap also being part of the Phase 1a category.

Staff is also in the beginning stages of planning for vaccination clinics on and off campus to distribute those vaccines when they become available, Jarvis said.

OSU's President F. King Alexander

also sent an email to students about fall plans and returning to in-person education.

"These plans provide me with the confidence that we are on our way back to a more traditional fall term, including predominantly in-person instruction on our campuses and on-site research, engagement, and extracurricular programs and activities," Alexander stated.

OSU has begun planning for fall classes in-person, so long as case rates are dropping and vaccine supply continues.

Western Oregon University has announced its plans to have classes, housing and activities in person this fall, following state safety protocols.

Officials said they will also offer an expanded range of options, including online courses, so students "can make the best choices for them." Masks and social distancing, as well as other protocols, will still likely be necessary.

Provost Rob Winningham said campus activities will be closer to "normal," with student and campus activities such as arts, intercollegiate athletics,

music, theater and others organized with safety guidelines in place.

University housing will configure residence halls to maximize capacity while also following COVID protocols, said Dean of Students Tina Fuchs. Dining establishments on campus are expected to operate much more extensively than they did during the 2020-21 school year.

Starting March 8, officials said the campus will be open for in-person admissions tours on an appointment-only basis. The spring sports season will also begin this month.

The format for a June commencement ceremony is still under discussion. Officials said an announcement is planned for the first week of the spring term. Summer courses will remain largely online.

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SnoLab

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Generally, creating a new custom pair of skis or snowboard costs \$700 to \$800 at SnoLab. The price goes down with a larger group signing up.

Process begins with customer design

The process of creating a custom pair of skis or snowboard begins behind the computer.

"We send our clients an in-depth questionnaire to begin a personalized performance design based on their style of skiing," Gullede said.

Students provide the details, from color, shape and graphics to their preferred ski turn radius. Once preferences are decided upon, SnoLab employees prepare materials for the day of the build.

A full-day of building the perfect ride

Students spend a full day building their own ski or snowboard.

In the morning, they'll print their graphic design for the topsheets of their skis, cut out their 9-ply birch wooden core, lay down fiberglass and smother their ski-sandwich in epoxy, Gullede said.

"It's surprising how little people know about what they strap to their feet to have fun in the snow," he said. "Building your own set of skis or snowboards completely changes the way you think about the sport."

After a lunch break, students mount their skis on a metal shaping rack before vacuum sealing their build and baking their layered concoction in a custom-built ski-oven.



Hank Gullede, right, manager of Santiam SnoLab, works with a student through the ski core routing process while building a new set of skis near Hoodoo Ski Area. PHOTOS BY KYLE MARTZ/SPECIAL TO THE STATESMAN JOURNAL

After removing the skis from the oven, the work is done.

Adam Wood, who created his own pair of skis in February, said it gave him a new appreciation for the process.

"When I first stepped into Santiam Snowlab, I thought I knew some stuff about skis," he said. "Then, hours of cutting, routing, planing, gluing and high-fives. I left at the end of the day with so much more knowledge and a deeper understanding of how my skis perform."

"It wouldn't have happened if I just went to the ski shop, picked some skis off the shelf to buy, took them home and stored them in my garage."

Custom equipment catered to the student

Each ski is hand-cut, mounted,

tuned, and waxed by SnoLab employees before students receive their skis ready to ride.

"In this era of technology, hands-on education is limited," said Gullede, who hopes to integrate his ski building curriculum into local middle and high school classes. "Everything is done with common tools found in most work-



Students work to build a new set of skis at Santiam SnoLab at Hoodoo Ski Area.

shops, or machines we hand built with common workshop tools."

How to make it happen

If you're interested in becoming a student, visit santiamsnolab.com or visit the shop in person for a 5-minute tour. Masks are required.

Kyle Martz is a senior at Willamette University studying Environmental Science, Communications and Media. Born and raised in South Salem, Kyle plans to pursue a career in the outdoor industry. He can be reached at kdmartz@willamette.edu.

Obituaries

John Quincy Chambers Jr.

SILVERTON - John Q Chambers Jr. age 97 passed away peacefully on Monday, March 8, 2021 surrounded by his family. Johnny was born in Verdigris, OK January 27, 1924 the son of Pearl & John Chambers. He had 3 brothers and 3 sisters. Johnny graduated from Verdigris High School and went to Oklahoma State College. After college he enlisted in the Army Air Corps where he was proud to serve his country during World War II. After receiving an honorable discharge he went home to Claremore, OK to help with the family farm. He was called back to serve in the Air Force during the Korean War. Again after receiving honorable discharges Johnny went to Portland, Oregon where he worked as a Telegraph Operator for Union Pacific Railroad Company. Shortly thereafter he met his bride, Juanita Tubbs and moved to Silverton, Oregon where they raised their 8 children. Johnny went into the logging business with his family and was a tree faller for many years. After attending a welding program to become a certified welder he left the logging business and worked for Brooks Canning Company until he retired at age 65. After retiring he and Juanita moved to Sedalia, MO where he enjoyed retired life. His passions were hunting and fishing. He had many hobbies, some of his favorites were reading, coin collecting, metal detecting and hunting for arrowheads. He loved a Friday night Penny Ante Poker game with family & friends. One of his favorite places was the Oregon Coast where he took many deep sea fishing trips with his family & friends. One of his biggest thrills was going to Washington DC on the Honor Flight. Johnny also took great pride in his Cherokee Native American Heritage.

He had such great love for his family and they for him. His was known by everyone who met him for his smile, kindness & gentle loving manner. He will be greatly missed. Johnny is survived by his sons, John Q. III, David M. & Tarchechee M. & wife Kathy. Daughters, Christine E Silna & husband Jeff, Judy Didlot & husband Jim. Several grandchildren, great grandchildren & great-great grandchildren, nephew & niece. He is preceded in death by his wife, Juanita, parents, Pearl & John Chambers, his siblings, daughters; Nita Ann, Joyce Marie, Sons; Richard Lee, Joseph Wayne. Grandsons; John Q Chambers IV, Ricky Didlot & James Didlot. There will be a memorial held at Ungers Funeral Chapel in Silverton, Oregon, Wednesday, March 17, 2021 @ 5:00 PM. Following an Honor Guard Ceremony Johnny will be buried next to his wife in Crown Hill Cemetery, Sedalia Mo. at a later date. Family asks in lieu of flowers donations be made to any Alzheimer's Research Foundation.



Miller

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gon, because you can order it online, and it's on your doorstep the next day."

Fallout from the discovery of the zebra mussel-infested moss will include expanded surveys of potential infection sites.

"We're going to have to start monitoring what I call dump sites, you know, where people dump their aquariums, generally like a city park or water bodies for mussels, which wasn't on our radar as a concern before," Boatner said.

Even if the mussels are dead, they can leave DNA in a lake, pond or stream that can trigger a positive test for the bivalves.

"That's my next concern," he said. "And that will cost several thousand dollars just to confirm that it's a false positive test."

"And, again, that's in water bodies that we weren't ever expecting to ever have to test."

If you have potentially infected plants, here's how safely get rid of them:

Either freeze or boil the moss ball before disposing of it in the trash.

Do not flush it down the toilet, dispose of it in a storm drain or use it as mulch.

For an aquarium, remove the fish, then use one cup of household bleach per gallon of water and let stand in the tank for 10 minutes before disposing of water down a sink or toilet.

Use the same bleach solution to disinfect filters, gravel and structures before disposing of the cleaning solution down the toilet.

Most old-timer fishing/hunting stories: "I've lived through some terrible things in my life, some of which actually happened." - Mark Twain

Contact Henry Miller at HenryMillerSJ@gmail.com



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