

News Release

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CTUIR to vaccinate BMCC students & staff, countywide high school students and others

Mission, OR – The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) will provide the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to 1,755 people thanks to a new supply from the Indian Health Service (IHS).

"When IHS offered to provide us with additional doses, we jumped at the chance," said Kat Brigham, Chair of the CTUIR Board of Trustees. "We asked the National Guard if they would once again step up and they didn't hesitate to say yes. The fastest way to rebuild our economy and stop the fourth wave is to vaccinate more people. We are all in this together."

All Blue Mountain Community College staff and students and all 16 year old and older high school students and school employees in Umatilla County are eligible to be vaccinated. In addition, employees of Pendleton restaurants, food trucks and grocery stores are eligible.

Groups that were previously eligible can also sign up including CTUIR Tribal members, employees and family members of employees of CTUIR entities, all Umatilla Indian Reservation residents over age 16 and Yellowhawk-eligible patients.

Appointments can be made by calling the vaccine appointment hotline at: 541-240-8733 or by registering online at https://airtable.com/shrb74wCvIR6fnNJR.

"This is a huge step to get us back into classrooms at BMCC," said Megan Van Pelt, President of the BMCC Associated Student Government and enrolled CTUIR member. "I hope all of my fellow students will sign up today."

The two-dose shot sequence will begin with appointments on April 12 and 13 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with booster shots administered on May 3 and 4 at Wildhorse Resort & Casino.

The Oregon National Guard will deploy area Guard members to administer the vaccines as they have done in past vaccination clinics with Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center.

In addition to scheduling an appointment, students need to bring proof of enrollment to their appointment. BMCC students should bring a copy of their term schedule from the CNS portal and high school students should bring their school ID.