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Vaccinations, tests, continue in Atchison

(KAIR)--The final call for Phase 1 of COVID-19 vaccinations is sounded by the Atchison County Health Department.

That's the reason behind a release issued Tuesday by Atchison County Health Officer Lori Forge.

According to the release, the first phase of the vaccination process is for healthcare workers, and those meeting the criteria within Atchison County who have not yet been vaccinated, and want to be, should call the Atchison County Health Department to arrange to do so at (913) 367-5152.

A list of those interested in receiving the vaccine will be compiled, and vaccinations will be scheduled in groups of 10.

Forge, in the release, said there has not yet been any information released pertaining to the start of phase 2, adding that as soon as the health department receives the vaccine, and permission to move to the next phase, information will be released to the public.

Meanwhile, onsite COVID-19 testing continues in Atchison.

According to Atchison County Emergency Management Director Wes Lanter, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment has provided funding to keep the testing site, located in the parking lot of the Atchison Event Center, at 710 South 9th Street, in operation at least through January 31.

According to Lanter, more than 100 people were initially being tested at the site, which opened last month, but now the location is seeing between 10 to 40 people daily.

Testing is available Monday through Saturday, from 9 in the morning until 5:00 in the evening.

The following is a list of individuals who qualify:
- Staff in long term care facilities
- Workers who are in direct contact with sick patients: MD, DO, Nurses, student nurses and trainees
- Phlebotomists, pandemic health workers ie: individuals performing Covid testing
- Healthcare-associated contractors, including food, waste management
- Dentists

- Home Care Workers
- Morticians, forensic and funeral service workers
- Health clinics
- Home Health aids and nursing assistants

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