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2020 has been a long year with COVID-19. It has been difficult with “at home learning” and “social distancing”. But help is on the way with the vaccine, which will be available to anyone over the age of 16. North Carolina is offering the vaccine in phases, starting with healthcare workers. **We are now in Phase 1b, which includes “home caregivers to medically fragile children and adults providing regular medical care”**. If you have a child who is medically fragile, you are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, which will protect yourself as well as your child.

This document from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) outlines the details:

<https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/vaccines/Deeper-Dive-Group-1.pdf>

You can click here for information to schedule a COVID-19 vaccine for yourself and other adults who provide care for your medically fragile child:

<https://www.buncombecounty.org/countycenter/news-detail.aspx?id=19057>

You will click the link to join the wait list located under the “All Health Care Workers” heading. Answer the question “Are you a health care worker?” as YES and fill out the demographic information. Someone from the Buncombe County Health Department will call you to schedule your vaccine visit.

COVID-19 vaccines are an important tool to help stop the pandemic. However, even after vaccination, everyone will need to continue to remember the 3 W’s, Wear a mask, Wait 6 feet, and Wash your hands.

Please let us know if we can help in any way through this time as we navigate through virtual school and other changes.