

COVID-19 Report to Members ~ November 16, 2021

Reports are sent on Tuesdays, unless there's breaking news.

Reimbursement & Policy

Funding available for vaccine clinics

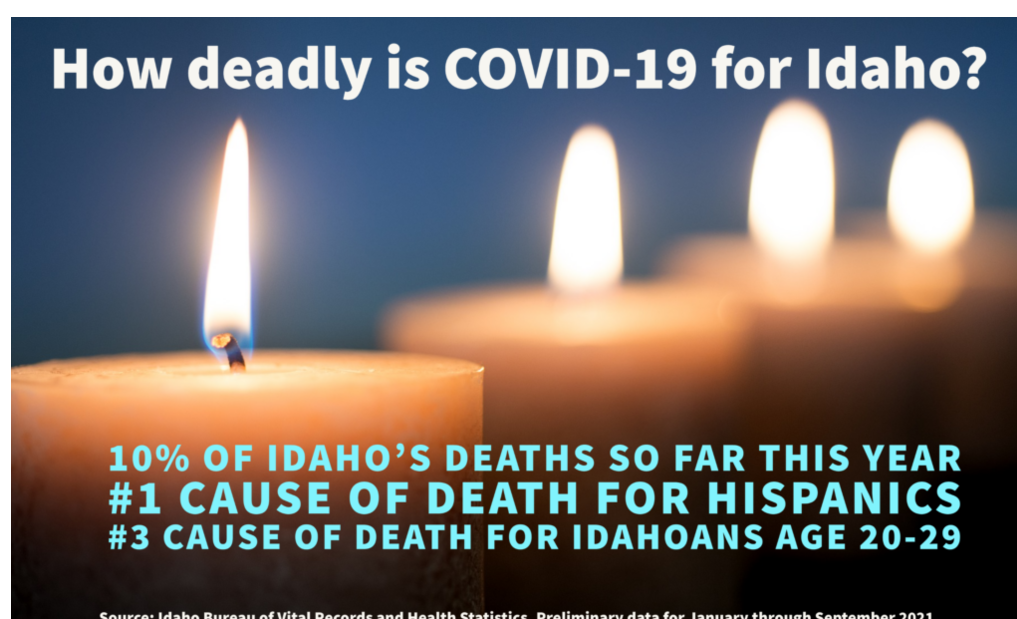
The Department of Health and Welfare has made \$9 million in grant funds available to entities seeking to offer mobile, offsite or other special vaccine clinics. Organizations seeking the funds must be currently enrolled as a COVID vaccine provider or partner with an enrolled provider. For details about applying, visit the [grant prospectus](#).

Idaho joins third federal lawsuit over vaccines

Yesterday, Governor Little announced that Idaho had joined a multi-state lawsuit over the federal vaccine mandate for health care workers. This is the third suit against the federal government that Idaho has joined in recent days. The first two involved vaccine requirements for federal contractors and large employers.

The lawsuit will challenge an interim rule set by CMS requiring all eligible workers in healthcare settings that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid program to be fully vaccinated by January 4, 2022. The requirement is for all healthcare workers and volunteers, regardless of their location of work. The narrow exception is for those who work 100% remotely and have no physical contact with patients or other staff. For hospitals and healthcare workers, the CMS rule takes priority over the other federal vaccine requirements for large employers and federal contractors.

Idaho joined eleven states in the suit which was filed in Louisiana. A second suit over the same rule was filed by ten states in a Missouri district court.



Idaho Capital Sun reporter Audrey Dutton delves into Idaho's mortality data and how COVID has impacted specific groups. Click on the image above to see how COVID deaths relate to deaths from other causes, deaths by demographic, and year over year comparisons.

Resources & Information

Toolkit ~ Addressing health misinformation

The Office of the US Surgeon General released a [toolkit on health misinformation](#). The resource, designed for healthcare workers, community leaders, and educators, provides guidance on identifying, understanding, and stopping misinformation.

Virtual Meetings & Education

Replay ~ Hospital efforts to provide vaccines to children

AHA, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Children's Hospital Association provided this webinar on vaccinating children against COVID. Participants shared insights, [resources](#), and lessons learned that can be of value to practitioners and hospitals as they continue to share the safety and efficacy of the vaccine for children.

[Replay](#)

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