

COVID-19 vaccine transportation resources Columbia, Clatsop and Tillamook counties

The Oregon Health Authority, local public health agencies and health systems are working quickly to build COVID-19 vaccination events in order to vaccinate as many Oregonians as possible. They may need to rely on non-emergent medical transportation (NEMT) or other transportation options to access vaccination event sites.

Medicaid NEMT

For those members enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan (OHP), either with a coordinated care organization (CCO) or as a fee-for-service (often known as “open card”) member, the transportation options include:

Medicaid insurance plan	Brokerage name	Brokerage phone
Columbia Pacific CCO	NW Rides	503-861-0657 888-793-0439 TTY: 711
OHP fee-for-service	NW MedLink	833-585-4221

Other transportation options

For individuals not enrolled in OHP who still need transportation assistance, there are other options. These include:

Organization name	County	Phone	Information and eligibility
Columbia County Rider	Columbia	503-366-0159	Dial-a-ride and flex routes services are available for free rides to in-county vaccine locations. Advanced reservations are required. Call for information.
Tillamook County Transportation District (TCTD)	Tillamook	503-815-8283	Accessible transportation for individuals with disabilities unable to ride fixed-route buses. Options may be available for free services to vaccines.
TCTD Dial-a-Ride	Tillamook	503-815-8283	Door-to-door demand response service for under-served areas of Tillamook County. Advanced reservations are recommended but same day requests are allowed. Options may be available for free services to vaccines.
Sunset Empire Transportation District (SETD)	Clatsop	503-861-7433, option 2	Accessible transportation for individuals with disabilities unable to ride fixed-route buses. Application required. \$1 per trip. Options may be available for free services to vaccines. For information, visit nworegontransit.org/rideassist-setd
One Call		866-733-8994	Providence Medicare members only. Please inquire to see if they qualify for this benefit.

Medicare beneficiaries

Medicare Advantage plan members may have a supplemental transportation benefit. Check with your Medicare Advantage plan for details.

Things to remember when getting ready for your COVID-19 vaccine appointments

NEMT is best and most successful when supporting individuals to scheduled appointment times for COVID-19 vaccine locations.

Depending on the number of individuals with appointments, members may experience longer than expected waits. All individuals getting vaccinated need to wait after the dose is given to see if there are any side effects. The amount of time someone may need to wait after the vaccine dose could be 15-30 minutes, in addition to the amount of time it takes to check in and wait in line for the vaccine.

If there are long wait times, please encourage individuals to:

- **Dress warmly and in layers.** Keep in mind that jackets and coats will need to be removed — and long sleeves rolled up or shirts pulled down — for the vaccine to be provided.
- **Don't forget your mask.** Masks are required so please remember to bring yours to your appointment.
- **Bring food and water.** Those with medical conditions made worse by long periods without food or water may need to bring something along on the trip.
- **Medication.** Individuals may wish to bring medication that needs to be taken at a certain time, if having to stay longer could mean missing a dose.