

# The WA HEALTH team helped folks locate COVID-19 vaccines online through Vaccinate WA



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WA HEALTH implemented a vaccine locator webpage to help connect residents with COVID-19 immunizations. This included information for over 2,000 pharmacies. This framework can be used in the future to help individuals locate vaccines in the event of another public health emergency.

## The “What”

During the pandemic, the WA HEALTH team assisted people in finding the COVID-19 vaccine and assisted facilities that were providing the vaccine to the public. They helped facilities that were providing the vaccine sign up with WA HEALTH, which would then allow those facilities to be displayed on the Vaccine Locator webpage. Washington residents were then able to go to the Vaccine Locator webpage and type in their zip code to find COVID-19 vaccines near them. Facilities could log into the WA HEALTH platform at



any time and update their vaccine accessibility settings as needed – for example, if they were providing boosters, pediatric vaccines, had wheelchair ramps, language interpreters, etc.

## The “So What”

Washington residents were able to find out where the COVID-19 vaccine was being offered near them by searching on Vaccine Locator and were able to be vaccinated. The WA State Department of Health onboarded over 2,000 pharmacies to WA HEALTH, which was used as the data backend for the Vaccine Locator. Additionally, APIs were developed to support automated data updates from large, national pharmacy chains. Using these tools helped WA State achieve a high level of vaccinations.

## The “Now What”

The framework for the WA HEALTH program could be used for people to find other vaccines in the event there is an infectious disease emergency.

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