

UNITED STATES PERMANENT MISSION TO THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

No. 06-B

The United States Mission to the Organization of American States presents its compliments to the permanent Mission of the Organization of American States (OAS) and wishes to bring to their attention information concerning the eligibility of foreign mission members and their dependents to receive COVID-19 vaccinations in the United States.

As has been widely reported, the supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States is currently limited. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to provide recommendations to federal, state, and local governments regarding priorities for vaccine distribution; however, each U.S. state, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territory is responsible for prioritizing distribution of its vaccine allocations. Information regarding such vaccine distribution plans can be found at the following link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/healthdirectories/healthdepartments.html>.

It is the federal government's goal for everyone present in the United States, including foreign mission members and their dependents, to have access to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Thus, the Department expects foreign mission members and their dependents to be treated no differently than United States citizens with respect to their eligibility for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine in line with the vaccine distribution plans established in the jurisdictions in which they reside.

Signed/Bradley Freden

To Permanent Mission to the

Organization of American States,

Washington, D.C. February 4, 2021.

It is also permissible for foreign missions to import COVID-19 vaccines for distribution to their foreign mission members and dependents serving in the United States. To ensure proper handling and procedures are followed, foreign missions are encouraged to discuss such plans with the Department's Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) prior to their government's shipment of such supplies.

The Department will continue to keep the foreign mission community apprised of any significant developments related to this matter.

Inquiries concerning this and other matters related to COVID-19 may continue to be transmitted by electronic mail to OFM-EmergencyMgt@state.gov. Past circular diplomatic notes and notices released by the Office of Foreign Missions related to COVID-19 may be found at <https://www.state.gov/office-of-foreign-missions-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-information-and-resources/>.

The United States Permanent Mission to the Organization of American States avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions, the assurances of its highest consideration.