

Colleagues –

As distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine ramps up, we know there are many questions about what to expect for yourself and for your colleagues. Like you, we are closely monitoring the work of the [Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation Advisory Group](#) and advocating for our employees and students as the Advisory Group develops the next phases and priorities for distributing the vaccines in our communities. As described in the linked website above, The Advisory Group is using four principles to guide their important work including:

- **Maximize benefits and minimize harms:** Protect the population's health by reducing mortality and serious morbidity.
- **Promote justice:** Respect people and groups and promote solidarity and mutual responsibility.
- **Mitigate health inequities:** Strive for fairness and protect against systematic unfairness and inequity.
- **Promote transparency:** Respond to needs respectfully, fairly, effectively, and efficiently in ways that are accountable, transparent, and worthy of trust.

In the coming days, we expect to learn more on the results of the Advisory Group's most recent meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021 and more details for vaccine distribution in priority 1b and beyond. In the meantime, a new [Vaccine Data website](#) was launched to offer transparency to the distribution process.

Please note, that while these vaccinations are an important step in managing the spread of COVID-19, vaccinated people will still be required to wear masks, social distance, and practice good hygiene while on our campuses. More details on Minnesota's COVID-19 vaccination strategy and progress is available here: at: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/index.html>

Respectfully,

**Eric Davis**  
*Vice Chancellor for Human Resources*

**Bill Maki**  
*Vice Chancellor for Finance and Facilities*