All Immigrants are Eligible for the Vaccine Too: The COVID-19 Vaccine for New Mexico’s Immigrant Communities

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**ALL New Mexicans CAN get the vaccine regardless of immigration status.**
You do not need an SSN or a government-issued ID to get a vaccine.

Your information is kept confidential.
Immigration status will not be shared.
ICE stays away from health care facilities.

The COVID-19 Vaccine is FREE.
Including for those without health insurance. You also cannot be billed for COVID-related services.

Remember: Getting the vaccine has ZERO impact on public benefits or immigration status.

Immigrants are Essential:

To Our Community & Achieving Vaccination Success in NM

10% of New Mexicans are foreign born. Approximately 60,000 are undocumented.

According to a statewide survey, 56% of Hispanic immigrants are ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES and a VITAL part of New Mexico’s economy.

Higher representation among essential employees makes them MORE VULNERABLE to COVID-19.

For a full list of citations see:
New Mexico’s Immigrant Communities Need Reassurance: Being Vaccinated Will Not Make Them Vulnerable to Immigration Officials or Loss of Public Benefits. NMDOH/CSP Rapid Response Exploratory Survey (2021)

For more on our COVID-19 Research:
https://csp.unm.edu/covid-19/index.html

Challenges to Getting Vaccinated:

Language Barriers & Misinformation

In a recent New Mexico DOH/CSP Rapid Response Exploratory Survey, 53% of Spanish-speakers in NM had not heard about vaccine registration. Over 75% had not registered for the vaccine.

National research indicates that NEARLY HALF of Latinos either believe that they are not eligible or not sure if they are eligible for the vaccine where they live.

- 11% of this group believe immigration status determines eligibility, despite immigration status NOT being a relevant factor for eligibility.

There is a misconception that you must have health insurance to get the vaccine.

- Immigrants are less likely to have access to affordable health insurance which creates additional concerns about the potential costs of getting vaccinated.