



WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS ASSOCIATION

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MEMBER ALERT

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As often news and needs warrant, WCMA will distribute special bulletins alerting you to information and resources related to industry operations and coronavirus (COVID-19). Your WCMA staff is here to support you.

Wisconsin Panel Recommends Adding Food Processing Workers to Phase 1B Vaccination Group

Members of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) today amended its [Phase 1B vaccination group recommendations](#) to include food production and agricultural workers, among others. All SDMAC members will review and vote on the recommendations tomorrow, January 21, with final review and approval to then come from Governor Tony Evers.

The amended Phase 1B plan is a marked shift from the advisory panel's [initial plan](#), which was limited to Wisconsinites aged 70 and older, teachers, police and fire personnel, and inmates. Earlier this week, Gov. Evers and Wisconsin Department of Health Services officials announced they would [expand the group](#) to include all those in the state aged 65 and older.

WCMA advocated for SDMAC's recommendations to include food production workers - specifically, dairy processing and manufacturing employees - and agricultural workers, and applauds the proposed changes to the Phase 1B plan.

Wisconsin remains in Phase 1A for now, vaccinating health care workers and residents of long-term care facilities. The state is receiving approximately 70,000 vaccine doses per week from the federal government, though Gov. Evers has requested 473,000 doses from Operation Warp Speed and the authority to buy doses independent.

WCMA will continue to work to support its members' priority access to vaccinations, and will keep members informed of relevant developments. Please feel encouraged to contact [WCMA staff](#) with any questions.
