

COVID-Tues 1

MEH

1/12 (Tues PM & Wed AM)

Beginning next week, Arkansas will advance to the next phase in vaccinating residents for the coronavirus. During his weekly press briefing on the pandemic, Governor Asa Hutchinson said the state is on track for reaching its goal for the first phase. On Monday, vaccines will be available for people working in education and those who are 70 or older.

News15 0:15 "...that were given."

Today (Tues) the state reported 40 additional deaths from COVID-19. There were just over 32-hundred new cases of people testing positive for the virus, but the governor noted that's down about a thousand from the same day a week ago.

(OPTIONAL) Earlier in the day, during his State of the State address, Hutchinson asked the legislature to support his emergency declaration issued in response to the pandemic. Some Republican lawmakers have questioned the governor's authority, especially when it comes to issuing a mask mandate.

COVID-Tues 2

MEH

1/12 (Tues PM & Wed AM)

Governor Asa Hutchinson says vaccinating Arkansans for the coronavirus is going well and, starting next week, the state will move to the next phase. Frontline health care workers and the residents and staff of long-term care facilities have been getting one of two vaccines since the middle of last month. Beginning Monday, educators and people over 70 will be eligible. Meanwhile 40 additional deaths were reported today (Tues) and while 32-hundred additional people tested have tested positive for the virus, Governor Asa Hutchinson says there is some improvement.

News16 0:14 "...and antigen tests."

Meanwhile modeling by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences predicts the state will top 5,000 deaths by the end of next month.