Last month, COVID-19 vaccines began being distributed throughout the country. However, due to the limited supply of vaccines, the NALC has been able to get vaccines to letter carriers only when availability has been sufficient. Each member carrier will be notified when the vaccine is available for their city. The NALC urges letter carriers to contact their local health department or pharmacy to begin the registration process when it becomes available.

NALC President Fredric Rolando said, “NALC remains steadfast in ensuring that letter carriers and the network have access to the vaccine. We are working closely with members to ensure that the vaccine is provided to the letter carriers who are eligible for vaccination.”

NALC conducted a mail referendum vote, as defined in Article 16, Section 1 of the NALC Constitution, to ratify a proposed National Agreement (M-01934) and two proposed MOUs (M-01913, M-01914). Both of these agreements will expire on March 26 as well.

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COVID-19-related MOUs extended until March 26

By joint agreement of the NALC and the USPS, COVID-19-related agreements with the USPS include:

• The April 2020 expansion of the vaccine to letter carriers is ongoing. Once NALC is advised of the distribution schedule, we will communicate to you the nearest ways to obtain the vaccine.

If you have questions about the vaccines, you should consult with your doctor or health care professional. The CDC website also contains information that may be helpful.

COVID-19 relief and recovery update

The 117th Congress convened on Jan. 3, and while it will be spending much of January configuring operations, leadership, committee assignments and priorities for this Congress, it also will address the needs of Americans, as COVID-19 cases spike and relief and recovery needs remain pressing.

Prior to adjourning the lame-duck session of Congress just days before Christmas, lawmakers passed a $2.3 trillion omnibus spending and tax extension bill that included language converting the $10 billion loan previously approved in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136) into a grant. That is a far cry from the $25 billion public-service option that NALC and the Senate Caucus (a group whose influence has risen in Congress with its ability to identify areas of commonality and elevate legislation) had pushed.

Regarding the Postal Service, the deal reached days before Christmas—the Emergency Coronavirus Relief Act of 2020—included language converting the $10 billion loan previously approved in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136) into a grant. That is a far cry from the $25 billion public-service option that NALC and the Senate Caucus (a group whose influence has risen in Congress with its ability to identify areas of commonality and elevate legislation) had pushed.

As with previous COVID-19-related MOUs, the agreement included: The April 2020 expansion of the vaccine to letter carriers is ongoing. Once NALC is advised of the distribution schedule, we will communicate to you the nearest ways to obtain the vaccine.

If you have questions about the vaccines, you should consult with your doctor or health care professional. The CDC website also contains information that may be helpful.

Letter carriers in Phase 1b of COVID-19 vaccinations

If you are eligible to vote on the proposed agreement and have not received a ballot by Jan. 25, call NALC Headquarters at 202-662-2836 (9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Eastern Time) to request a replacement ballot. A replacement ballot will be mailed after your eligibility is verified.

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