

Using Volunteers for Vaccination Events

[CARES Act](#)

Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES), there is general liability protection for volunteer health professionals responding to the COVID-19 emergency response. See section 3215 for specific language.

[PREP Act](#)

Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP), there is broad immunity protections for healthcare professionals and for defined emergency response countermeasures, which includes the administration of vaccines.

Based on these two federal measures of liability protections, hospitals and other providers can follow the process below for recruiting, organizing, and deploying volunteers for vaccine events.

STEP ONE: Source volunteers from lists provided by SCHA, DHEC, or other local groups OR create a section on the hospital website for volunteer recruitment.

**[Click here](#) to access the SCHA compiled list of willing nurses.*

**To access the DHEC list of volunteers, email Deb Beasley at beasleds@dhec.sc.gov.*

STEP TWO: For volunteers recruited from pre-determined lists, create a simple application to capture basic contact information, professional licensure number (if appropriate), etc. and email to targeted volunteers. Hospital may also want to have volunteers sign a waiver of liability as part of the sign-up process.

For volunteers recruited from the website, provide an online application as part of the sign-up process and consider including the waiver of liability.

STEP THREE: For clinical volunteers (those serving as vaccinators or observers), hospital staff should confirm professional licensure in good standing with appropriate regulatory or licensing boards. The [Board of Nursing](#) and [Board of Medical Examiners](#) have online licensee look-up functions available on their websites.

STEP FOUR: For clinical volunteers, hospital staff should provide some level of training or refresher skills and skills competency check off before allowing volunteers to vaccinate or observe.

STEP FIVE: Assign schedules and deploy clinical and non-clinical volunteers for vaccine events.