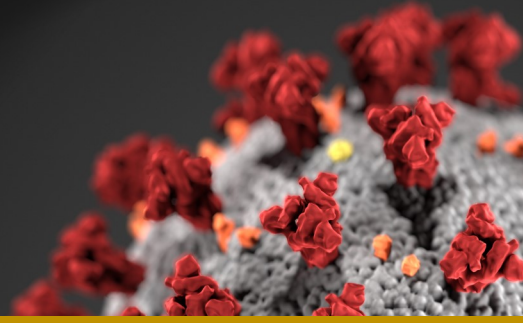


# COVID-19 ADVISORY & GUIDANCE UPDATE



March 15, 2021

SBCovid19.com

This update summarizes news, guidance, advisories, and legislative and executive actions taken by federal, state and local governments that impact San Bernardino County and its response to the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) crisis.

- **March 15** - The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced [increasing the Medicare payment amount for administering the COVID-19 vaccine](#). This new and higher payment rate will support important actions taken by providers that are designed to increase the number of vaccines administered each day.
- **March 14** - San Bernardino County published a [special update](#) announcing a San Bernardino resident was identified as the first California case of the P.1 “Brazilian” variant of the novel coronavirus.
- **March 12** - The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced [taking action to expand the pool of qualified professionals able to serve as vaccinators](#). HHS has used its authority under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) to add additional categories of qualified people authorized to prescribe, dispense and administer approved COVID-19 vaccines.
- **March 12** - San Bernardino County [announced](#) the transition from the State’s most restrictive purple tier, to the more open red tier on Sunday, March 14, 2021. The move into red tier means local businesses, including gyms, restaurants, movie theaters and museums, can open for indoor services with modifications.



COVID-19 Response