



THE ENTERPRISE Ledger

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SUNNY 58 • 28 For more weather, see the Dothan Eagle, Page A3

ADPH launches vaccine portal

Can be used to check eligibility, scheduling

DR. KAREN LANDERS
Alabama Newscenter

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) has launched an online portal for people to check their eligibility and make appointments for COVID-19 vaccinations at county health departments. The easy-to-navigate portal provides up-to-date information about drive-thru and walk-in clinics being offered.

By entering information in the portal, individuals can confirm their eligibility, select a county where they intend to schedule their vaccination and indicate if they want to receive an email when the vaccine becomes available. Information about the vaccine product itself and what to expect is provided.

There are links to a complete list of vaccine providers in the state and other information on the Alabama COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Dashboard. The portal has practical information for the peo-

ple scheduled, such as what they should bring, mask requirements and a vaccine fact sheet.

The demand for vaccine continues to greatly exceed supply as Alabama has more than 326,000 health care workers and nearly 350,000 people who qualify for a vaccine because they are 75 years of age or older. On Feb. 8, the addition of people 65 or older and other frontline critical workers will add more than 1 million people who are eligible to receive a vaccine.

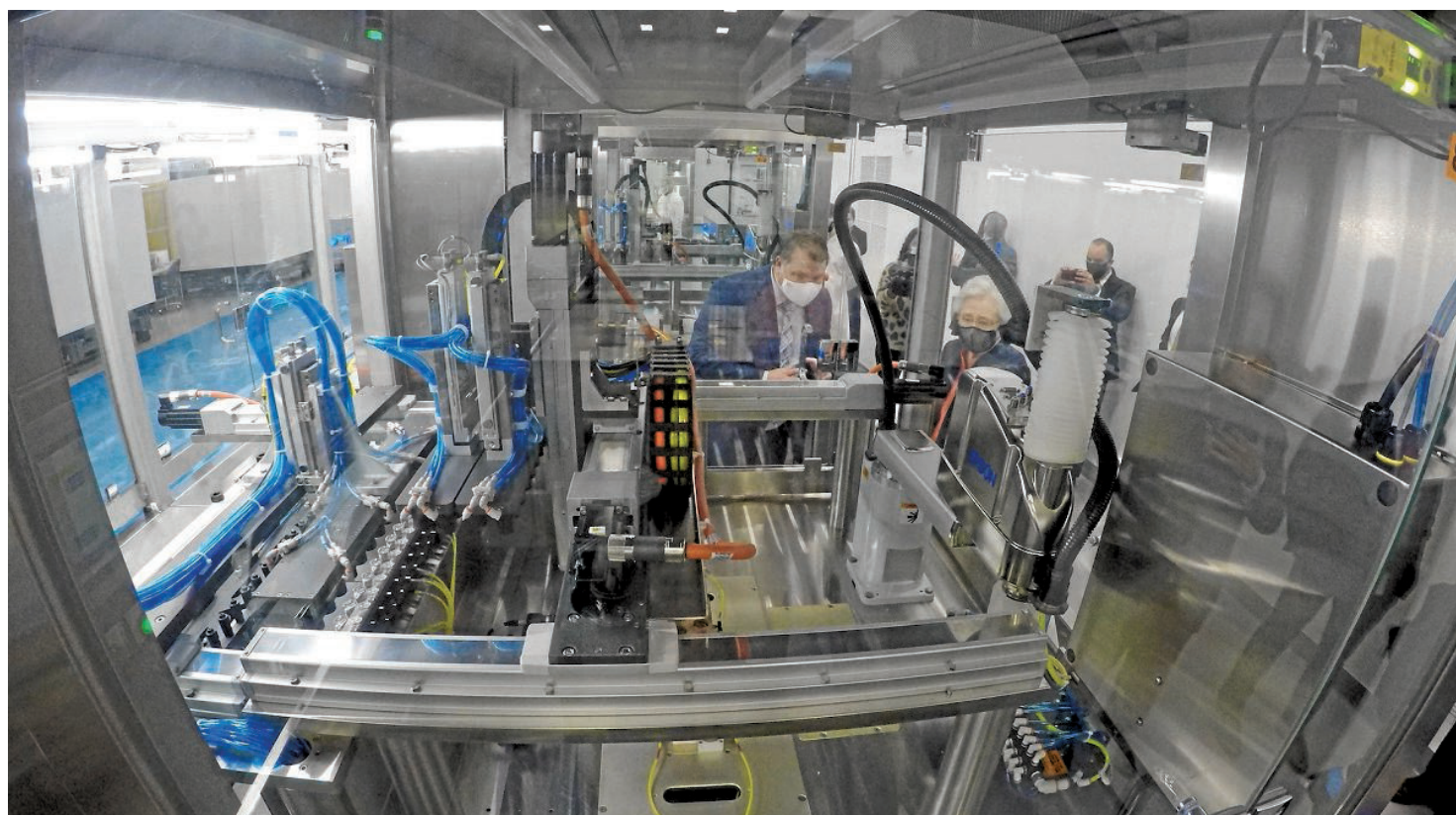
Sites listed in the portal have

limited supply of vaccine. Current assessment of supply and expectations for shipments over the next month indicate that many public health clinics will have to focus on providing second doses in February. As appointments may not be available immediately, the limitation of appointments is directly related to the amount of vaccine provided by the federal government. If supply of vaccine products from the federal government increases, ADPH officials expect that access to appointments for priority groups will increase. If

appointments are not available at a county health department, people are encouraged to visit drive-thru and walk-in clinics or other vaccine providers.

Alabama's COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Plan, which can be viewed on the portal, was developed by working with stakeholders and following guidance from the federal government. For general information, the COVID-19 Information Hotline is 1-800-270-7268.

The portal can be accessed at <https://www.alcovidvaccine.gov/>.



HAL YEAGER, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey toured SiO2 Materials Science in Auburn, one of several companies in the state that saw job growth in 2020. Alabama was among the states with the fewest job losses during the pandemic last year.

Alabama had among fewest job losses in 2020

OLIVIA ROCKEMAN BLOMBERG
Alabama Newscenter

Alabama and other states with less strict responses to COVID-19 fared better in terms of job losses than those with the tightest restrictions in 2020.

Hawaii, Michigan and New York registered the steepest declines in employment last year, underscoring repercussions on

the job market and economy from states employing stricter COVID-19-related business restrictions.

A sharp slowdown in travel and tourism resulted in a 13.8% slump in Hawaii's payrolls in December from a year earlier, the biggest among U.S. states, a Labor Department report showed. Michigan and New York, among

states with harsher shutdown measures, saw employment declines that exceeded 10%.

At the same time, Mississippi, Georgia and Alabama - which have remained relatively most open throughout the pandemic - posted the fewest job losses.

Over the past year, Hawaii also had the largest increase in the unemployment rate, which rose

6.6 percentage points to 9.3% in the 12 months through December. Colorado's jobless rate jumped 5.9 percentage points to 8.4% and Nevada's rose 5.5 percentage points to 9.2%. All are tourism-dependent states that have implemented business and travel restrictions.

Please see **JOBS**, Page A3

Testing resumes in Coffee, Houston

Each clinic will be open two days a month

SOUTHEASTERN PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) will offer COVID-19 testing in Coffee and Houston counties during the month of February.

Due to limited staffing in this district and COVID-19 vaccination clinics, testing is only being provided on alternate weeks in Coffee and Houston counties at this time.

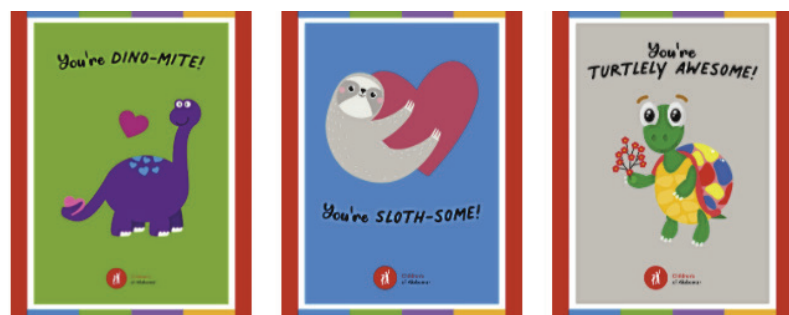
No COVID-19 retesting will be done.

Testing clinics are scheduled as follows:

Coffee County Health Department

- 2841 Neal Metcalf Road
- Enterprise
- (334) 792-9070
- Tuesday, Feb. 2 and Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Please see **TESTING**, Page A3



CHILDRENS OF ALABAMA

Children's of Alabama has provided three options to choose from. All greeting cards are free to send and will be distributed by hospital staff to patients on Valentine's Day.

Help make Valentine's special for kids

Free greeting cards available on Children's hospital website

CHILDRENS OF ALABAMA

BIRMINGHAM - Show some love to the patients at Children's of Alabama this Valentine's Day by sending a free greeting card through the hospital's website.

Now through Sunday, Feb. 14, visit give.childrensal.org/VDay to select one of the three card designs.

The cards will be printed with the sender's first name only and distributed by hospital staff to patients throughout the hospital on Valentine's Day.

"When children are in the hospital, a simple gesture like a Valentine's Day card can really lift

their spirits," said Mindy Wald, events manager. "Online shopping is a great way to support our patients any time of the year because the gifts can be shipped directly to the hospital."

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, staff is unable to accept in-person gift donations for patients at the hospital.

Please see **VALENTINE'S**, Page A3

Pastor Mike Smith's Words of Hope, A3



Check out the interactive weather maps at www.eprisenow.com

See if you have unclaimed property, A3

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