CDC Registration/Scheduling for COVID-19 Vaccination

This is the email from the CDC that my mother received:

When you click on the link, you are brought to this page:
Questions asked:

- Have you already registered as a vaccine recipient with VAMS?
- Home address
- Select “I am not a robot.”
- A security feature will appear: Select all of the squares containing the designated items or portions of the designated items to pass the “human” test.

At this time, the **CDC will send you another email with a verification code.** Be sure to refresh/reload your email. Be sure to check your spam or trash folders if it does not appear quickly. Enter the verification code carefully into the provided box and click, “Verify.”

The email will be from the CDC and be called “One Time Password code for accessing VAMS.”

At this time, **you must create an account.**

- The username is your email address.
- The password must include at least three of the following and be a minimum of 8 characters long:
  - 1 uppercase character
Hi, Welcome to VAMS
Please create your Account to Access the Recipient Module

Your Username

Your password must be at least 8 characters long and include at least 3 of the following categories:

- 1 uppercase character
- 1 lowercase character
- 1 number
- 1 special character

* Create Password

* Verify Password

Security Alert - This warning banner provides privacy and security notices consistent with applicable federal laws, directives, and other federal guidance for accessing this Government system, which includes all devices/storage media attached to this system. This system is

Now the account has been created...
Now it is time to add your information:

Continued: The important thing to know on this screen is that you must click to select the appropriate race and then click the small “right arrow” that sits between the two boxes to apply the selection.
Continued: Note that you must input your required phone number. If you input a cell number, you will have the choice to receive notifications as a SMS (text) message instead of an email. If this is an easier option for you, select SMS. You will need to verify your cell phone number.

By providing your phone number, you agree to receive VAMS related voice calls from the CDC. If you would also like to receive SMS notifications, you must also check the SMS consent checkbox below.

* My preferred method of contact for receiving messages about my VAMS appointment is:
  - Email (default)
  - SMS (By entering my phone number and selecting this option as my preferred method of contact, I consent to receive SMS messages from VAMS about my appointment**)

**Message and data rates may apply, messages per month may vary. Text HELP for help and STOP to cancel.

Continued: Add an emergency contact, if desired.

* My preferred method of contact for receiving messages about my VAMS appointment is:
  - Email (default)
  - SMS (By entering my phone number and selecting this option as my preferred method of contact, I consent to receive SMS messages from VAMS about my appointment**)

**Message and data rates may apply, messages per month may vary. Text HELP for help and STOP to cancel.

Terms and conditions
View privacy policy

Emergency contact name

Emergency contact number

Next
The next part asks for medical information: **Have a list of medications available.**

* I am currently living in a nursing home.
  - Yes
  - No

* Indicate any known allergies
  - Crustacean shellfish (e.g. crab, lobster, shrimp)
  - Eggs
  - Fish (e.g. bass, flounder, cod)
  - Food
  - Gelatin/Egg Protein
  - Latex
  - Medication(s)
  - Milk
  - Neomycin
  - Peanuts
  - Soybeans
  - Thimerosal
  - Tree nuts (e.g. almonds, walnuts, pecans)
  - Vaccine or vaccine component
  - Wheat
  - Yeast
  - Other
  - No existing or known allergies

* Indicate any known existing conditions
  - Asthma
  - Serious Heart Conditions
  - Liver Disease
  - Chronic Lung Disease
  - Chronic Kidney Disease
  - Diabetes
  - Severe Obesity
  - Immunocompromised
  - No existing conditions

List any medications

List any other relevant medical information
Next you select an “organization.” Frankly, I was confused by this page, but quickly found and selected “Age 65 and older.”

At this time, you are registered. Next, it is time to schedule the appointment!

Thank you for registering your account.

View your profile or get started scheduling your vaccination appointment.

You must start by verifying that you have not yet received a vaccine for COVID-19.
To see a map of locations, enter your zip code and how far you are willing to travel. Since we live 20 miles from most “metro” areas, we selected 50 miles.

After choosing your location and clicking on the location, the location will appear on the map and be highlighted in a very light blue.
I am afraid that I did not get a screenshot of the calendar. Even this morning, there were no appointments available until mid-February. Continue to click on dates until you find a date with available appointments.

Once you find a date with an appointment, select it. You will receive a selection confirmation page.

And the appointment will be scheduled!
Additional Considerations

Since I was scheduling this appointment for my mom on my computer, I took the following additional -- and optional -- steps:

- I scanned the QR code with my mother’s iPhone.
  - On an iPhone, simply open the Camera and aim the camera towards the QR code. The link will appear at the top of the screen. Click on the link.
- This allowed me to log into the CDC site with her username (email address) and the password we created.
  - The iPhone asked to save the password. We allowed it to be saved in the iPhone to simplify future logins.
- I took a picture of the QR code and saved it to my mom’s camera roll.
  - I also took a screenshot and sent it to myself and my husband, so we can quickly text it to her if she needs it quickly for her appointment.
  - The screenshot and picture of the QR code is readable by other devices.