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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **State announces first four winners of Vax 2 the Max sweepstakes**

*Each winner takes home \$250,000*

SANTA FE – The state of New Mexico confirmed the first prize winners in the Vax 2 the Max Sweepstakes, a \$10 million cash sweepstakes funded by federal stimulus and intended to incentivize COVID-19 vaccinations.

Four vaccinated New Mexicans -- [one from each public health region of the state](#) -- are each confirmed winners of \$250,000, as drawn at random by the New Mexico Lottery.

The confirmed winners of the Friday, June 18, drawing are:

- Ruth Meilstrup, 72, of Santa Fe
- Phillip Perez, 53, of Albuquerque
- Linda Tobkin, 68, of Ruidoso
- Taylor Brooke Provencio, 23, of Chamberino in Doña Ana County

Non-winning entries will be carried over to each successive \$1 million drawing. New Mexicans who have opted in to the sweepstakes **do not have to opt in again to remain eligible for future drawings**. Vaccinated New Mexicans who have not yet opted in to the sweepstakes **still can opt in for future drawings** at [vax2themaxnm.org](http://vax2themaxnm.org). The deadline to opt in for each drawing is 6 p.m. the night before the drawing.

Four more \$1 million Friday drawings, with four regional \$250,000 winners each, will occur throughout the summer, each conducted by the New Mexico Lottery on behalf of the Lujan Grisham administration.

The next \$1 million drawing is scheduled for July 2, followed by drawings scheduled for July 16, July 23 and July 30.

A grand prize drawing of \$5 million is scheduled for early August.

The sweepstakes and other financial incentives have contributed to increased interest in vaccinations statewide. The [vaccineNM.org](http://vaccineNM.org) website saw a 6,000 percent increase in traffic last week versus the week before, and a 250 percent increase in first time visitors week over week.

New Mexicans who have received at least one COVID-19 vaccination may opt in to the sweepstakes at [vax2themaxNM.org](http://vax2themaxNM.org). To be eligible for the \$5 million grand prize, New Mexicans must have completed their vaccination series. New Mexicans can schedule their shots at [vaccineNM.org](http://vaccineNM.org).

The rules and regulations of the sweepstakes [are available here](#).

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**NMDOH**

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The Department of Health works to promote health and wellness, improve health outcomes, and deliver services to all New Mexicans. As New Mexico's largest state agency, DOH offers public health services in all 33 counties and collaborates with 23 Native American tribes, Pueblos and nations.