VFC Eligibility Screening & Documentation Requirements

1. Screen for VFC Eligibility at Every Immunization Visit

You are required to screen ALL children (birth through 18 years) in your practice at every immunization encounter prior to administering VFC vaccines.

2. Determine Which Eligibility Criterion Is Met

To be VFC-eligible, patients must meet at least one of these four criteria:

- **Medicaid-eligible (or enrolled)**: Has Medi-Cal as primary or secondary coverage
- **American Indian (AI) or Alaska Native (AN):** As defined by the Indian Health Care Improvement Act
- **Uninsured:** A child who has no health insurance coverage Underinsured: A child who has private health insurance, but the coverage does not   include vaccines; a child whose insurance covers only selected vaccines.
- **Underinsured:** A child who has private health insurance, but the coverage does not include vaccines; a child whose insurance covers only selected vaccines. Underinsured children are eligible to receive VFC vaccine only through a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Center (RHC).

Verification of patient/parent response or self-identification of eligibility criterion (or criteria) is not required. No other factor may be considered when screening for VFC eligibility.

3. Document VFC Eligibility in CAIR

Providers must document patient eligibility (and doses administered) in the California Immunization Registry (CAIR). Eligibility documentation must include these elements:

- Date of screening
- Whether or not the patient is VFC-eligible
- Which eligibility criterion (or criteria) was met (e.g., Medicaid-eligible, American Indian or Alaskan Native, uninsured, or underinsured)

Maintain patient eligibility screening records for a minimum of 3 years.

4. Ensure Vaccinators Only Use VFC-Supplied Vaccines for VFC Children

Staff who conduct VFC-eligibility screening are not necessarily vaccinators. Update practice protocols so vaccinators know when to use VFC-supplied vaccine and when to use private stock. Group and label VFC and private vaccines separately to prevent errors.