



# IMPORTANT MESSAGE

California Department of Public Health  
Immunization Branch  
Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program  
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September 4, 2015

## VFC Program Influenza Vaccine Supply Update

Dear VFC Provider,

The California Vaccines for Children Program expects to receive an estimated 20-25% of our initial supply of some influenza products in the coming week. Although shipments are still limited, these doses will be sufficient to begin fulfilling provider orders the week of September 7<sup>th</sup>. The specific products that will be shipped and exact percentages of your confirmed order allocation will be communicated as soon as orders are processed.

Vaccine shipments will begin arriving towards the end of the week of September 14, 2015.

In preparation to receive vaccine shipments, please:

- **Update your hours of delivery** to ensure that your flu shipment can be delivered to your practice.
  - To view and update your practice's delivery days and times, log-in to your MyVFCVaccines account on [eziz.org](http://eziz.org) and then click the "Update Practice Information" link.
  - If your practice will be on vacation and will not be able to receive vaccine shipments, please contact the VFC Customer Service Center at 1-877-243-8832.
- **Prepare adequate space in your vaccine storage unit to receive initial flu vaccine shipments;** make sure received doses are labeled appropriately and placed in pre-designated areas of the storage unit.
  - Ensure all unused and expired products from the previous flu season have been reported to the VFC by completing an online return form in your MyVFCVaccines account on [eziz.org](http://eziz.org) and that you return the expired doses to VFC's national vaccine distributor.
- **Review your vaccine refrigerator temperature logs** to ensure it is maintaining appropriate temperatures between 35.0°F – 46.0°F (2.0° to 8.0°C).
  - Any inactivated influenza products that are exposed to freezing temperatures cannot be used.

It is expected that multiple subsequent shipments will be received over the next few months to complete the state's pre-booked vaccine supply for the 2015-2016 influenza season. Subsequent shipments for the remaining order balance for these products will be automatically processed and shipped as additional vaccine doses become available.

Providers who did not confirm their initial flu allocations by the confirmation deadline, or those wishing to order additional doses of flu, will still have the opportunity to submit a supplemental vaccine request, once Supplemental Flu Ordering is opened to all providers later in the flu season. VFC will notify you when this occurs.

**NOTE: The VFC Customer Service Center will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2015 for the Labor Day Holiday. Normal business hours will resume the following day.**