California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program
2021-2022 Initial Flu Order Confirmation Quick Guide

The VFC Program’s Initial Flu Order Confirmation system will be available to VFC Providers through myVFCVACCINES from July 30, 2021 to August 13, 2021.

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL FLU VACCINATION SEASON

Discuss and outline key strategies to achieve high influenza vaccination coverage rates for your patients and decrease missed opportunities for vaccination.

- Review the Flu Action Plan: 3 Habits of Highly Successful VFC Clinics (IMM-1274) with staff and implement strategies not currently in use.
- Use the presumptive approach – don't ask! Tell patients they are due for flu vaccination.
- Review talking points for vaccine hesitant parents on EZIZ.org and CDC.gov

ORDER SUBMISSION

Not all providers need to confirm their initial order! For providers who submitted a 2021-2022 pre-book, VFC has automatically confirmed 50% of your confirmed pre-book for your initial order. Vaccine will arrive in multiple shipments once supply is available. No further action is required.

However, the Initial Flu Order Confirmation system is available at myVFCVACCINES for:

1. Providers who would like to receive less than 50% of their confirmed pre-book
   OR
2. Providers who did not submit a pre-book in January 2021. The number of doses available for the initial flu order are a percentage of the 2021-2022 season target. Additional doses may be requested in Phase 3 of VFC Flu Ordering.

Keep in mind:

- The maximum number of doses that may be requested for the initial flu order will be displayed by brand.
- Doses allocated for the initial order cannot be shifted between brands.
- Providers have two (2) weeks to review and confirm their initial flu order.

INFLUENZA VACCINE ACCOUNTABILITY

- VFC vaccine doses, including flu, can only be administered to VFC-eligible patients 18 years of age and younger. Doses administered must be documented using a vaccine administration log, immunization registry, or an electronic health record system.
- Doses administered and doses on hand must be reported to the VFC Program with each influenza vaccine order.
- If there is no electronic system to track usage, use VFC’s Vaccine Usage Log. Available for download on EZIZ.org.
- VFC vaccine cannot be administered to privately-insured patients or adult patients 19 years of age and older under any circumstance. Doing so may constitute fraud or abuse of VFC-supplied vaccines. For the same reasons, borrowing between vaccine supplies is not allowed.

PRIOR to confirming your initial flu order:

Return expired flu from the previous season. If your practice has any expired flu doses from the previous flu season, immediately remove them from your refrigerator and submit an online Return/Transfer form.

Make sure you can store all the doses you request. Orders cannot be canceled once sent for fulfillment.

Flu vaccine orders are processed as VFC receives inventory and orders are sent to the VFC Program’s national vaccine distributor for fulfillment. An email notification will be sent to the practice’s vaccine coordinator and back-up coordinator upon processing of the order.

Successful and timely delivery of your shipment depends on your delivery information listed in your “MyVFCVaccines” account. Keep these updated at all times, but most importantly before you place a vaccine order. Verify delivery hours are reflective of clinic open hours, especially for the weeks following an order submission.

The initial order is to get your practice started for the season; additional doses should be ordered as needed throughout the season.

You will need to report vaccine doses administered since the previous order and current on-hand inventory with each flu order, just like routine vaccine orders.