

December 13, 2024

# 2025 VFC Recertification is Coming Soon! Start Planning Now

# BACKGROUND

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program's Annual Recertification is almost here! The VFC Program's 2025 Recertification will be available later this month. Recertification is a federal requirement that must be completed annually by enrolled providers to continue receiving publicly funded vaccines. New providers that enrolled prior to Recertification launch will also be expected to complete 2025 VFC Recertification. Providers will have until February 2025 to complete the process once Recertification is available.

The following steps will help your practice get started and collect required information on the <u>Recertification Worksheet</u> ahead of time. Not completing Recertification by the deadline will lead to immediate suspension of vaccine ordering privileges and may lead to eventual termination from the VFC Program. Once a practice is terminated from the VFC Program, termination cannot be reversed. If interested in re-enrollment, the practice must wait until the next Recertification cycle and may be subject to conditional enrollment.

### PREPARE FOR RECERTIFICATION NOW

#### 1. Wait Until Recertification Launch to Complete All Required EZIZ Lessons

To receive credit for the annual training requirement, only take the lessons once 2025 VFC Recertification launches; do <u>not</u> start the EZIZ Lessons until announced by the VFC Program as all lessons are currently being updated and will need to be retaken. Key practice staff must complete all required lessons to meet VFC's annual federal educational requirement prior to accessing the online Recertification page. Since the EZIZ lessons are being updated this year, a test-out option will not be available.

*Please note: While all VFC system activities have transitioned to myCAvax, EZIZ lessons are still hosted on the same, separate training platform on <u>EZIZ.org</u> and must be completed on EZIZ.* 

Plan ahead:

- Make sure you allocate time for lesson completion as you prepare your clinic's December and January schedules!
- *IMPORTANT NOTE!* Since myCAvax is connected to validate EZIZ training lessons, the name (first and last) and email listed on myCAvax must match the name and email on the EZIZ training account used to complete the required lessons. Each key practice staff must have a unique email and EZIZ user ID.

# 2. Check If Your Data Logger Calibration Is Up to Date and Meets VFC Requirements

The VFC Program requires that all digital data loggers (DDLs) used for temperature monitoring of VFC-supplied vaccines (including backup DDLs) have a current certificate of calibration. Having expired certificates of calibration may lead to vaccine orders being held.

Plan ahead:

- Gather certificates of calibration for your clinic's data loggers (including backup devices). You will be prompted to upload a copy of your certificate of calibration during Recertification.
- Check expiration dates. If any of your data loggers have an expired certificate of calibration, or will be expiring soon, make sure you send your DDLs for calibration services prior to Recertification launch or purchase a new DDL.

#### 3. Ensure Your VFC Account is in Good Standing

Only Providers with active accounts in good standing with the VFC Program will be able to access the 2025 VFC Recertification form. Providers who have outstanding mandatory corrective actions stemming from a VFC site visit will not be able to access the Recertification form until the corrective actions have been resolved.

Plan ahead:

• If you have any outstanding mandatory corrective actions, please contact your <u>VFC Field Representative</u> to resolve prior to Recertification.

#### 4. Note Your Immunization Registry ID

AB 1797, a California bill effective January 1, 2023, requires all California providers to enter every immunization administered, as well as a patient's race and ethnicity, into a California immunization registry (CAIR OR Healthy Futures/RIDE). As a result of this law, all active participants of California's VFC Program are required to enter all vaccine doses administered into CAIR or RIDE. Providers without an immunization registry ID will not be able to move forward with 2025 Recertification.

For more information, see the California Department of Public Health's <u>AB 1797</u> <u>Immunization Registry FAQs</u>.

#### 5. Generate Patient Reports from your EHR or Immunization Registry

Actual patient population figures are needed to forecast the estimated number of VFC and non-VFC eligible children to be immunized at your practice during 2025.

Plan ahead:

• Generate reports from your Electronic Health Record (EHR) or Immunization Registry on actual patient population served by your practice during 2024. You will need to report the total number of VFC eligible patients, as well as the total number of privately insured patients (broken down by age) in your practice.

#### 6. Verify your Clinic Staff's License Numbers Ahead of Time

Contact information, medical licenses, and National Provider ID (NPI) for any new Key Practice Staff and Health Care Providers with Prescription-Writing Privilege must be reported.

Plan ahead:

- In order to ensure you report the correct information, we encourage your practice to verify your staff's license numbers ahead of time through the California Department of Consumer Affairs website: <u>https://search.dca.ca.gov/</u>
- Locate NPI numbers through the National Plan & Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) website: <u>https://npiregistry.cms.hhs.gov/</u>.

#### 7. My Turn Vaccine Locator

The <u>My Turn Vaccine Locator</u> is a public-facing page that helps patients find your location based on its proximity and vaccination services. This replaces the previous EZIZ Provider Locator and is a helpful tool to promote your practice and the immunizations that you provide. You will be automatically added to the My Turn Vaccine Locator during Recertification, unless you select to opt-out.

Please join CDPH for an interactive webinar to see live demonstrations and learn how My Turn Clinic can streamline vaccine administration and clinic management.

- When: Tuesday, January 14, 2025
- Time: 12:00 pm 1:00 pm
- Register here: Benefits of Using My Turn Clinic

If you have any questions about the VFC Recertification process, please contact the VFC Program at 1-877-2GET-VFC (1-877-243-8832).

Resources:

- 2025 VFC Recertification Worksheet (IMM-1207)
- 2025 Recertification Process (IMM-1277)

# Thank you,



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