



California
Vaccines for
Children Program

November 8, 2024

Reminder to Order Flu, COVID-19 and RSV Immunizations, Call Center Closures, and Holiday Shipping Schedule

PROTECT YOUR PATIENTS AGAINST INFLUENZA, COVID-19 AND RSV! OFFER ALL ACIP-RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATIONS

As part of VFC Program requirements, VFC providers are expected to order and administer all ACIP-recommended vaccines to VFC-eligible patients served, including immunizations protecting against respiratory diseases such as influenza, COVID-19, and RSV. Log-in to your [myCAvax](#) account to submit your respiratory immunizations request on the VFC vaccine order form as soon as possible to protect your patients this fall and winter!

FLU

- You can continue to submit flu vaccine orders until the end of the season next year.
- The VFC Program has allocated doses to all VFC Providers based on your approved pre-book amounts or allotment if a pre-book was not submitted. Starting the week of November 12, 2024, you may request additional flu vaccine allocations within the myCAvax VFC vaccine order form. The system will prompt you to provide a justification before approval. In the meantime, if you need additional allocations, please contact the VFC Program.
- To view your allocations, either click on the “View Provider Inventory” link on the myCAvax order form or go to your Program Location account and click on the “Vaccine Inventories” tab in myCAvax.
- Allocated doses are reserved for each PIN; however, if doses allocated continue to remain unordered, VFC may adjust allocations to support providers that need additional doses.

- **Flu vaccine orders are NOT shipped automatically by VFC.** For the 2024-2025 season, vaccine coordinators must order through their [myCAvax](#) account and will be expected to submit their flu vaccine request as doses are needed, or up to their allocated amount.
- Order enough flu vaccine doses that can be stored properly within your vaccine refrigerator.

For more information about VFC flu vaccine ordering, please refer to the letter [VFC 2024-2025 Flu Vaccine Orders](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).

COVID-19

The VFC Program's goal is to reduce barriers to vaccination, and ensure children receive all the indicated vaccine doses within their medical home. Please ensure your practice continues to order and administer COVID-19 vaccines to meet the needs of all VFC-eligible patients seen at your practice. The updated COVID-19 vaccines are available for ordering through the VFC Program, and all COVID-19 vaccine brands are available for ordering. Updated vaccines are licensed by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and recommended by the CDC's Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) for use in people 6 months and older to protect against severe COVID-19 disease.

Please note, any remaining vaccine spoiled/wasted due to ordering and not administering the minimum amounts needed for your total VFC-eligible patient population will *not* be considered a negligent vaccine loss, so we encourage you to order at least the minimum.

RSV

Nirsevimab (Beyfortus™) continues to be available to order from VFC to prevent severe respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) disease in VFC-eligible infants and toddlers. RSV season typically starts in October and extends through the end of March. RSV is the leading cause of infant hospitalization in the U.S. Throughout the RSV season, please ensure your clinic has doses of nirsevimab available for administration to infants

IMPORTANT NOTE:

If you are unable to submit an order due to an existing order for your account that is currently being fulfilled (i.e. status of Submitted, Assigned, Corrections Needed, Corrections Submitted, Pending, Approved), please contact our VFC Customer Service Center at 877-243-8832 for assistance.

VFC FLU REPORT RETIRED, NEW RESPIRATORY VACCINES DASHBOARD COMING IN JANUARY!

You may have noticed that your usual customized **VFC Flu Report** was not sent out in October. Due to the migration to the myCAvax system, VFC has retired this report, but plans on sharing a new dynamic dashboard for both flu and COVID-19 vaccines this coming January 2025. The new respiratory diseases immunization dashboard will give your clinic similar insight into your practice's strategic data and target goals to help your

practice monitor and improve uptake of VFC flu and COVID-19 vaccines. Expect a more detailed announcement in January.

CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER CLOSURES

The VFC Customer Service Center will be closed on the following dates:

- Monday, November 11, 2024 (Veterans Day)
- Thursday and Friday, November 28-29, 2024 (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Orders will continue to be received during these call center closures. Normal business hours will resume after each event.

HOLIDAY SHIPPING SCHEDULE

As we near the fall and winter holidays, be sure to submit your vaccine orders in advance of the holidays to prevent any delays in receiving vaccines. It is recommended that providers maintain a minimum of 2 weeks of inventory to allow time for processing and shipment of your vaccine request.

Orders submitted after November 19 may not ship until the week of December 2nd. There will be limited shipping the weeks of November 25th and December 23rd. The VFC Program's National Vaccine Distributor, McKesson Specialty, Pfizer (shipments of COVID-19 vaccine), and Merck (shipments of varicella-containing vaccine) will not ship routine vaccines during the following dates:

- Monday, November 11, 2024 (Veterans Day Holiday)
- Wednesday, November 27, 2024, through Friday, November 29, 2024
- Monday, December 23, 2024 through Thursday, January 2, 2025
- Monday, January 13, 2025 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday)

KEY ORDER CUTOFF DATES

Order By*	Receive By
Friday, November 15	Friday, November 22
Thursday, December 12	Friday, December 20

*Please note, orders must be approved by the VFC Program by the above "Order By" date. Submit your vaccine request prior to the cutoff to allow time for review and approval, or if any corrections are needed.

Normal shipping resumes on Monday, December 2, through Friday, December 20 and again on Friday, January 3, 2025. We will continue to receive orders throughout these blackout dates and process for shipping based on the above dates.

IMPORTANT: If your location plans to close temporarily for the holidays, please wait to submit your vaccine order upon your return. Report any holiday closures in the myCAvax system to prevent any shipping incidents that could lead to vaccine waste.

Please continue to visit EZIZ.org for additional updates and resources. If you still have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to reach us at 877-243-8832.

Thank you,



California Vaccines
for Children Program

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