

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency California Department of Public Health



September 5, 2024 IZB-FY-24-25-01

TO: California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Providers

FROM: Robert Schechter, M.D., Chief / Succession of the Succession

Center for Infectious Diseases

Division of Communicable Disease Control, Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: VFC 2024-2025 Flu Vaccine Orders

Key Takeaways

- ✓ Flu vaccine orders are now in myCAvax on your routine VFC vaccine order form.

 There is no separate flu vaccine order form.
- ✓ Flu vaccine orders will NOT be shipped automatically by VFC.
- ✓ For the 2024-2025 season, providers will be expected to actively go in and submit their flu vaccine request. Request enough doses that can be appropriately stored in your refrigerator, up to your allocated amount.

PROTECT YOUR PATIENTS AGAINST INFLUENZA, RSV AND COVID-19

VFC Flu Vaccine Ordering is now available to begin vaccination efforts for the 2024-2025 Flu Season through the California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program.

Protect your patients against influenza disease, RSV, and COVID-19. As most pharmacies in California cannot vaccinate patients younger than 3 years old, it is critical that you provide access to vaccine for your younger patients. RSV and updated COVID-19 vaccines will become available soon through the VFC Program.

2024-2025 CALIFORNIA VFC FLU VACCINE PRODUCTS

Age Group	Product	Presentation: All Single Dose	Manufacturer	NDC Code
6 months- 18 years	Flucelvax®	0.5mL syringe, 10 pack	Seqirus	70461-0654-03
	FluLaval®	0.5mL syringe, 10 pack	GSK	19515-0810-52
	Fluzone®	0.5mL syringe, 10 pack	Sanofi	49281-0424-50
2-18 years	FluMist®	0.2mL intranasal sprayer	AstraZeneca	66019-0311-10



IMPORTANT: You may only order products approved from your pre-book or allocated to your practice. No changes to brand preferences can be accommodated. Additional allocations requested later in the season, beyond what your practice pre-booked, will be based on remaining vaccine supply and may differ from what you pre-booked. Ensure that your electronic health systems can accept all flu products offered above.

FLU VACCINE ORDER CHANGES

Now that the VFC Program has transitioned to the myCAvax system, flu vaccine ordering will be different this season. Changes to VFC flu ordering include:

- There is not a separate flu vaccine order form. Flu vaccine will be available to order on the regular VFC vaccine order form alongside other routine vaccines.
- Initial flu vaccine orders will not be shipped automatically by VFC.
 - For the 2024-2025 season, providers must order through their myCAvax account and will be expected to actively go in and submit their flu vaccine request up to their allocated amount.
- You will be able to order doses up to your total pre-booked doses or confirmed season allotment. As supply comes in, VFC will add doses to your allocation for you to draw down from and place flu orders as needed. Make sure to only order what you can store.
- The initial amounts available to order will be dependent on available supply. We will notify providers each time additional doses are added to allocations.

WHEN TO BEGIN FLU ORDERING

Once your practice has been allocated flu vaccine, you may begin submitting your flu vaccine requests. VFC providers will order flu vaccine using the same order process they do for all other routine vaccines on the VFC order form of your myCAvax account.

IMPORTANT: To prevent vaccine spoilage, immediately notify the VFC Program by reporting in myCAvax if you will have a vacation closure and update any changes to your clinic hours for receiving shipments.

SUPPLEMENTAL VACCINE ORDERS

If it is not yet time for a provider to place their routine VFC vaccine order, they may submit a supplemental VFC vaccine order for flu vaccine (and include requests for COVID vaccine and RSV immunizations if needed). A supplemental order is any order outside of a provider's routine VFC order frequency. Low volume providers can order every 3 months, medium volume providers can order every 2 months, and high-volume providers can order every month.

Supplemental orders do not require some providers to report full usage and inventory for all VFC vaccines if:

- (1) the last routine order was within the past 30 days for low and medium volume providers. You would only be required to report usage and inventory for the vaccine being requested.
- (2) the last routine order was within the past 20 days for high and very-high volume providers.

Important Note: If the provider's last VFC order was more than 30 days ago, they will be expected to report full usage and vaccine inventory to prevent accountability errors. Low or medium volume VFC Providers who are not yet due for their routine order, may have to report full usage and inventory each time a supplemental order is submitted.

RECOMMENDED ORDER SIZE

On the myCAvax VFC vaccine order form, the system will calculate your "recommended order size." The purpose of the "recommended order size" is to guide you on the number of doses you should be ordering based on your inventory and doses administered.

The VFC Program understands that your actual flu vaccine need may differ from what is recommended (e.g. planned flu vaccine clinics, influx of patients, etc.). If you need more doses beyond what is in your "recommended order size," please enter a justification.

NOTE: For your first flu vaccine order, since there would be no inventory and usage information for the 2024-2025 flu vaccines, your recommended order size will default to zero. You will be prompted to provide a justification for requesting doses beyond what is initially recommended. Select "other" and write "first order for this product/NDC".

ALLOCATIONS

As flu supply is received at our national vaccine distributor, McKesson, the VFC Program will allocate flu doses throughout the season. Providers should expect to receive multiple allocations during the first part of the flu season, as supply arrives at McKesson in increments. Influenza vaccine from different manufacturers arrives at different times; therefore, the VFC Program may not be able to allocate doses in full.

Doses will be allocated up to the provider's approved pre-book amount. For providers who did not pre-book in January 2024, VFC will allocate doses based on available supply. Initially, as supply is coming in from McKesson, providers cannot order beyond what we allocate to them. After all our supply is received at McKesson, the VFC Program will allow providers to request doses beyond what was allocated but would need to submit a justification. The VFC Program will review and add doses to providers' allocations as needed.

<u>To view your allocations</u>, either click on the "View Provider Inventory" link on the order form or go to your Program Location account and click on the "Vaccine Inventories" tab in myCAvax. You will see several numbers based on your approved pre-book or available supply.

- Total to be Allocated by CDPH: This is the full total number of doses (approved pre-book, or allocated amount if you did not pre-book) that CDPH will allocate to your practice for the entire season.
- Allocation Received to Date: As supply is received, this is the amount allocated to your practice.
- Remaining Allocation: The amount left that still needs to be allocated ("Total to be Allocated by CDPH" minus "Allocation Received to Date")
- **Doses Available to Order:** The number of doses that can be requested right now ("Allocation Received to Date" minus doses ordered)
- **Available Quantity:** The system calculated inventory based off the inventory summaries (not allocations, but orders, shipments, transfers, waste, etc.)

NEWLY ENROLLED PROVIDERS

Newly enrolled VFC providers will be initially allocated a limited amount of flu vaccine. They may contact the VFC Customer Service Center or VFC Field Representative if they have significantly more VFC-eligible patients since initial enrollment.

FLU ACTION PLAN

Strategies to use now in your flu action plan:

- Actively recommend influenza vaccine—don't wait for the patient to ask.
- Identify patients due for influenza vaccine.
- Recall patients due for doses of influenza vaccine.
- Review your VFC Flu Progress Reports sent to your practice throughout the past season and build on progress your clinic achieved.
- Review your end-of-season report to guide your goals for this upcoming season.
- Meet with staff to formulate a plan for implementing your selected strategies.

VFC INFLUENZA PROGRAM LETTER AND ACIP RECOMMENDATIONS

The federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends routine annual influenza vaccination for all persons over 6 months of age, including two doses for many children younger than 8 years of age. The annual VFC Program Influenza letter, including a summary of this season's ACIP recommendations, product dosage and administration, storage and handling guidelines, and other important information, will be released once recommendations are published by the CDC.

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ANY QUESTIONS?

- Call the VFC Customer Service Center at 877-243-8832 (877-2GET-VFC).
- Refer to the attached "VFC 2024-2025 Flu Order Frequently Asked Questions."
- Contact your VFC Field Representative or visit our website, www.EZIZ.org.

Enclosures:

VFC 2024-2025 Flu Order Frequently Asked Questions