

Iowa's Vaccines for Children Program

Spring Update
Webinar

April 22, 2026



Health and
Human Services



Housekeeping

- ▶ All attendees are in “Listen Only” Mode
- ▶ Want to ask a question?
 - Type your question into the “Q&A” in the top area of your screen
 - Additional questions can be sent to IowaVFC@hhs.iowa.gov
- ▶ This webinar is being recorded. The recording and slides will be made available at <https://hhs.iowa.gov/health-prevention/vaccines-immunizations/vfc>.
- ▶ Questions regarding the VFA Program?
 - Email IowaVFA@hhs.iowa.gov.

Presentation Outline

- ▶ Programmatic Updates & Reminders
 - Updated Iowa VFC Operations Guide
 - Receiving VFC Vaccine Shipments Checklist
 - Important Dates for 2026 and Upcoming Delivery Holds
 - CDC Immunization Recommendation Changes
 - 2025-26 Respiratory Season Updates
- ▶ Improving Vaccination Rates
 - 2025 Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal Updates
- ▶ Tips & Tricks to Avoid Common VFC Program Noncompliance Issues
 - 2025 Iowa VFC Vaccine Wastage Reports
- ▶ Q&A—Ask Your Questions!

Programmatic Updates & Reminders

Updated Iowa VFC Operations Guide

Updated Iowa VFC Operations
Guide with new Iowa HHS style
and better alignment with federal
VFC Operations Guide

Available at:

[https://hhs.iowa.gov/health-
prevention/vaccines-
immunizations/vfc](https://hhs.iowa.gov/health-prevention/vaccines-immunizations/vfc)



Iowa Vaccines for Children
(VFC) Program Operations
Guide 2025-2026

April 2026 revision

Vaccines for Children Program Overview

Overview

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program is a federally funded program established by Congress in 1994 to increase access to vaccination for children who might not get vaccinated because of financial barriers.

The VFC Program serves children through 18 years of age who meet at least one of the following criteria:

- ▶ American Indian or Alaska native (AI/AN)
- ▶ Medicaid-eligible
- ▶ Uninsured
- ▶ Underinsured

For full information on patient eligibility, see [Module 1—Patient Eligibility and Insurance Criteria](#).

The VFC Program is a unique component of the federal Medicaid Program. The Program is now in its fourth decade and has been recognized for its success in raising immunization coverage rates among high-risk children and reducing disparities in access to healthcare.

VFC Operations Guide and Resources

The VFC Program Operations Guide and other resources are intended for the management and operations of the VFC Program. The requirements and procedures are applicable to all providers enrolled in the VFC Program and receiving vaccines. VFC Program providers will be notified when new information is available or updates to the guide are made. Updated documents will be posted to the [Iowa VFC website](#).

The Iowa VFC Program provides programmatic and other time-sensitive information through an email listserv. Providers can join the VFC listserv and receive updates to their inbox. Contact the VFC Program at 800-831-6293 or email IowaVFC@hhs.iowa.gov to have an email address added.

VFC Program Fast Facts

- ▶ VFC Program benefits over 350,000 children in Iowa each year
- ▶ Approximately 600 enrolled health care provider sites in Iowa
- ▶ Nearly 650,000 doses of vaccine are distributed to Iowa providers annually

VFC Program Highlights

- ▶ Provides publicly purchased vaccine for eligible children at no cost to VFC-enrolled public and private healthcare providers
- ▶ Saves VFC-enrolled providers and patients out-of-pocket expenses for ACIP-recommended vaccines
- ▶ Eliminates or reduces vaccine cost as a barrier to vaccinating eligible children
- ▶ Reduces referrals of children from private providers to state and local health departments for vaccination

VFC Program History

- ▶ Congress created the VFC Program in response to the 1989-1991 measles outbreak in the United States, at a time when vaccination coverage was low. The measles epidemic resulted in tens of thousands of cases and hundreds of deaths.
- ▶ The VFC Program was established as a new entitlement program required to be part of each state's Medicaid plan. The VFC Program is a Title XIX Medicaid program.
- ▶ Section 1928 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. §1396S) provides the legal authority for the VFC Program by requiring each state to establish a program for pediatric vaccine distribution to registered provider locations. It provides authority for purchase of vaccines for administration to eligible children using federal Medicaid and state funds (including 317).
- ▶ The VFC Program is available in all 50 states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

VFC Program Funding

- ▶ Funding for the VFC Program is approved annually by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).
- ▶ The funds are allocated through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to CDC.
- ▶ CDC awards VFC Program funding through a cooperative agreement to 66 state, local and territorial immunization programs.

VFC Program Oversight

The VFC Program is administered at the national level by CDC through its National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD). CDC is responsible for VFC Program policy development and national program oversight with Iowa HHS Immunization Program implementing the VFC Program in Iowa.

Medicaid

Title XIX of the Social Security Act is a federal/state entitlement program that pays for medical assistance for certain individuals and families with low incomes and limited resources. This program, known as Medicaid, became law in 1965 as a cooperative venture, jointly funded by the federal and state governments (including the District of Columbia and the territories) to assist states in furnishing medical assistance to eligible persons. Medicaid is the largest source of funding for medical and health-related services for America's low-income citizens.

Within broad national guidelines established by the federal government, each state Medicaid program can:

- ▶ Establish its own eligibility standards
- ▶ Determine the type, amount, duration and scope of services
- ▶ Set the rate of payment for services
- ▶ Administer its own program

As a result, Medicaid programs vary considerably from state to state.

Updated Quick View of VFC Eligibility and Insurance Coverage Situations

VFC Eligibility and Insurance Situations - Quick View

Available at:

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/health-prevention/vaccines-immunizations/vfc>

Quick View of VFC Eligibility and Insurance Coverage Situations

	Child's Insurance Status	VFC Eligibility Category	VFC	Private
Medicaid	Enrolled in Medicaid	Medicaid	✓	
	Primary insurance plan with Medicaid as secondary insurance	Medicaid ¹	✓	✓
	Enrolled in Medicaid and is American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN)	Medicaid or AI/AN	✓	
AI/AN	AI/AN	AI/AN	✓	
	AI/AN with no health insurance coverage	AI/AN or Uninsured ²	✓	
Un-insured	No health insurance coverage	Uninsured ²	✓	
	Enrolled in a Healthcare Sharing Ministry	Uninsured ²	✓	
Birthing Hospital	All insurance statuses	Birth Dose Hepatitis B is available for the whole birth cohort at enrolled facilities regardless of eligibility	✓	
Underinsured	Health insurance, but plan does not cover any vaccines	Underinsured ^{2,3,4}	✓	
	Insurance does not provide first-dollar coverage	Underinsured ^{2,3,4,5}	✓	
	Health insurance plan does not cover all ACIP-recommended vaccines	Underinsured ^{2,3,4}	✓	
	Health insurance plan covers all vaccines, but has a fixed dollar limit or cap on amount of coverage	Underinsured after fixed dollar limit is met ^{2,3,4}	✓	
		Insured until fixed dollar limit is met		✓
	Health insurance covers all vaccines but has not yet met plan's deductible (high-deductible plans)	Underinsured if the visit is for immunizations-only and deductible has not been met ^{2,3,4,5,6}	✓	
Insured if visit is not for immunizations-only, or deductible has been met			✓	
Not VFC-Eligible	Enrolled in the Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (Hawki) Program	Insured – Not VFC Eligible		✓
	Health insurance covers all vaccines	Insured – Not VFC Eligible		✓

Receiving VFC Vaccine Shipments Checklist

Receiving VFC Vaccine Shipments Checklist

Document to ensure appropriate receipt of VFC Program vaccine shipments

Recommended, not required use.


Available at:

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/health-prevention/vaccines-immunizations/vfc>

Receiving VFC Vaccine Shipments Checklist

Instructions

Complete this checklist to ensure appropriate receipt of Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program vaccines. If any shipment issues are identified, store vaccines at appropriate temperatures, mark them as "Do Not Use" and notify the Iowa VFC Program at IowaVFC@hhs.iowa.gov. **Never refuse a vaccine shipment.**

Facility Name:	VFC PIN:	VFC Coordinator Email:
Date McKesson Shipment(s) Received:	Date Merck Shipment(s) Received (Proquad & Varivax):	Date Pfizer Shipment(s) Received (COVID):
1. Inspect shipment and select any issues with the delivery:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Previously opened <input type="checkbox"/> Not ordered or incorrect recipient		
<input type="checkbox"/> Broken, torn, or tampered with <input type="checkbox"/> Package never arrived		
2. Open package immediately to identify any out-of-range temperatures		
Refrigerated vaccines ship with a TagAlert temperature monitor.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Follow directions on the device: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remove TagAlert temperature monitor from the box. The TagAlert is located inside the inner box, next to vaccine. ▪ Follow instructions on the blue card to stop the TagAlert and determine if appropriate temperature was maintained in transit. ▪ Immediately place vaccine in appropriate storage unit upon receipt. ▶ Note if alarm was triggered, store vaccine at appropriate temperature and mark as "Do Not Use" until further guidance is received. 		
Frozen varicella-containing vaccines are packaged with an insert to identify allowable shipping time.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Note if shipment arrived beyond allowed time. 		
COVID-19 vaccines may have differences in cold-chain management or shipping		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Moderna (Spikevax) ships from McKesson frozen at -50 to -15°C (-58 to 5°F) with instructions for confirming proper shipping temperatures. ▶ Novavax ships from McKesson at 2 to 8°C (36 to 46°F) with MonitorMark/FREEZEmarker indicators. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine shipment and storage varies by product. Follow package inserts included with the shipment to confirm appropriate temperature and storage. 		

Vaccine Deliveries: TagAlert Temperature Monitors in Refrigerated Coolers

- ▶ New temperature monitors (TagAlert) in shipments from McKesson
- ▶ **TagAlert temperature monitors should be discarded** and do not need to be returned to McKesson
- ▶ Each shipment includes a flyer with unpacking steps, TagAlert instructions and cooler return instructions to assist staff responsible for receiving vaccine shipments

Action item: Upon opening the box, providers should **immediately** press the blue “**Stop & Start**” button until the “**Stop**” icon appears. Then, read the indicator status to determine if the appropriate temperature was maintained during transit.



Handling Vaccines Compromised During Shipment

Handling of Vaccine Compromised During Shipment

If a provider believes a vaccine shipment was comprised, they must immediately contact the Iowa VFC Program at 800-831-6293 or iowaVFC@hhs.iowa.gov.

Important: Do not dispose of the shipment until guidance has been received.

On the same day as the shipment, VFC Providers **must** also contact:

- ▶ McKesson Centralized Distribution: Contact centralized distribution immediately at 877-TEMP123 (877-836-7123). This must be done the same day vaccines arrive. Reporting later may result in the Iowa VFC Program being responsible for the spoiled vaccine regardless of the reason for the excursion.
- ▶ Direct Ship Vaccines (Merck or Pfizer frozen vaccines): Contact the Iowa VFC Program for guidance. Merck issues may also be reported directly to the manufacturer using their [CDC/VFC Vaccine Inquiry Form](#).

Important 2026 VFC Program Events

- ▶ **July:** Annual VFC Program Re-enrollment due
 - July webinar will include demonstration of re-enrollment
- ▶ **August:** 2026-27 Influenza vaccine deliveries

- ▶ Details to be sent on listserv

Upcoming Delivery Holds

- ▶ Deliveries made by UPS & FedEx
- ▶ Review and update delivery hours with each order
 - Required to have at least one four-hour consecutive period on a day other than a Monday to receive shipments
 - **Hours do not update in IRIS unless included on a submitted order**
- ▶ Shipping hold for Memorial Day
- ▶ McKesson may place temporary holds due to severe weather conditions in Iowa or at the warehouse site

Update to CDC Childhood Immunization Recommendation Changes

- ▶ On January 5, 2026, CDC adopted a revised childhood and adolescent immunization schedule.
- ▶ As a result of the case American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) vs. Robert F Kennedy, Jr. on March 16, 2026:
 - The Secretary's January 5 modifications to the pediatric immunization schedule are stayed pending further judicial review
 - All votes cast by the now-stayed ACIP appointees are similarly stayed
 - Including regarding flu/thimerosal, COVID-19 and hepatitis B
- ▶ The vaccine recommendations that were in place before June 2025 are back in effect, at least for now.

2025-26 Respiratory Season Updates

Extended RSV Immunization Season

- ▶ Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) activity remains **very high** in Iowa.
- ▶ The Iowa VFC Program recommends **continuing RSV immunization** for eligible infants and young children using RSV monoclonal antibody products through **April 30, 2026**. The VFC Program will provide additional guidance about when to discontinue administration.
- ▶ Extending immunization through this date helps ensure ongoing protection for infants who remain at risk for severe RSV illness. RSV continues to be a leading cause of hospitalization among infants. RSV monoclonal antibody products—**nirsevimab** and **clesrovimab**—provide strong protection against severe disease.
- ▶ Maternal RSV vaccination for the 2025–26 respiratory virus season concluded on **January 31**. Further use is **not recommended** at this time.

RSV Product Recommendations

Nirsevimab (Beyfortus) Recommendations:

- ACIP recommends 1 dose of nirsevimab for all infants aged <8 months born during or entering their first RSV season (50 mg or 100 mg)
- ACIP recommends 1 dose of nirsevimab (200 mg, administered as two 100 mg injections given at the same time at different injection sites) for infants and children aged 8-19 months who are at increased risk for severe RSV disease and entering their second RSV season
- Can be co-administered with other recommended vaccines

Enflonsia (Clesrovimab) Recommendations:

- ACIP recommends 1 dose of Clesrovimab as an option for RSV protection in infants aged <8 months born during or entering their first RSV season
- Can be co-administered with other recommended vaccines

Respiratory Season Summary

COVID-19 Vaccine:

- Ordering started in October
- Allocation model from CDC

Influenza Vaccine:

- Distribution started in August
- Allocation model from CDC
- Additional doses available—
contact iowaVFC@hhs.iowa.gov

Maternal RSV Vaccine:

- Ordering started in July, can use unexpired vaccine from previous seasons
- Administration started Sept. 1, **ended January 31**
- Allocation model from CDC, must request doses from VFC Program

RSV monoclonal antibody products (Nirsevimab, Clesrovimab)

- Ordering started in August, can use unexpired vaccine from previous seasons
- Administration started October 1, **ends April 30**
- Allocation model from CDC

Return Expired VFC Vaccines

VFC Program providers are expected to return **all spoiled and expired VFC vaccines**, including COVID-19 vaccines, as soon as possible within the first 30 days but not to exceed six months after expiration date

- Return single dose syringes, unopened single dose vials and unopened multi-dose vials to McKesson
- Products in open boxes can be returned, however opened multi-dose vials cannot be returned
- Shipping label is only valid for 30 days

[Nonviable Vaccine Return Instructions](#)

Improving Vaccination Rates

Immunize.org Resources

- ▶ **Skills Checklist for Vaccine Administration** document update for healthcare staff who administer immunizations.

- ▶ Immunize.org Website Office Hours:

Vaccine Confidence & Addressing Concerns

June 11, 2026, 11 a.m. CT

Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OO8-viZkR9ecsBw5vqap0g#/registration

*Not a VFC Program requirement

You Call the Shots Modules

- ▶ Vaccines for Children (VFC)
- ▶ Vaccine Storage and Handling



2025 Immunization Data

February Update: 2025 Immunization Data

- ▶ Childhood (2-year-old)
- ▶ Adolescent (13–15-year-old)
- ▶ HPV vaccine (13–15-year-old)
- ▶ Adult (18+)
- ▶ School immunization audit
- ▶ Weekly influenza vaccine
- ▶ Monthly COVID-19 vaccine



May Update:

Child Care Immunization Audit

2025 Childhood Immunization Data

Childhood 2025 Immunization Data

2 Year Old Immunizations for State of Iowa by IRIS Population

Immunization	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1 MMR	85.1%	85.3%	88.4%	88.4%	85.7%	83.9%	84.8%	82.7%	84.4%	83.0%
1 Varicella	84.0%	84.4%	87.6%	87.5%	84.8%	83.3%	84.1%	82.0%	83.9%	82.0%
3 Hep B	86.9%	86.5%	90.2%	90.6%	88.5%	87.8%	87.9%	86.1%	88.2%	86.6%
3 Hib	83.9%	83.6%	87.1%	87.2%	84.7%	83.4%	83.7%	82.6%	84.9%	84.4%
3 Polio	86.7%	86.2%	90.1%	90.7%	88.4%	87.1%	87.3%	85.4%	87.1%	85.4%
4 DTaP	75.4%	75.9%	79.8%	78.2%	77.3%	75.9%	76.3%	75.3%	77.0%	75.3%
4 PCV	74.9%	75.6%	80.2%	80.3%	78.1%	76.5%	77.1%	75.7%	76.9%	75.0%
4-3-1-3-3-1-4	68.9%	70.1%	74.7%	73.6%	72.4%	71.0%	70.9%	69.6%	71.2%	70.0%

2025 Adolescent Immunization Data

Adolescent 2025 Immunization Data

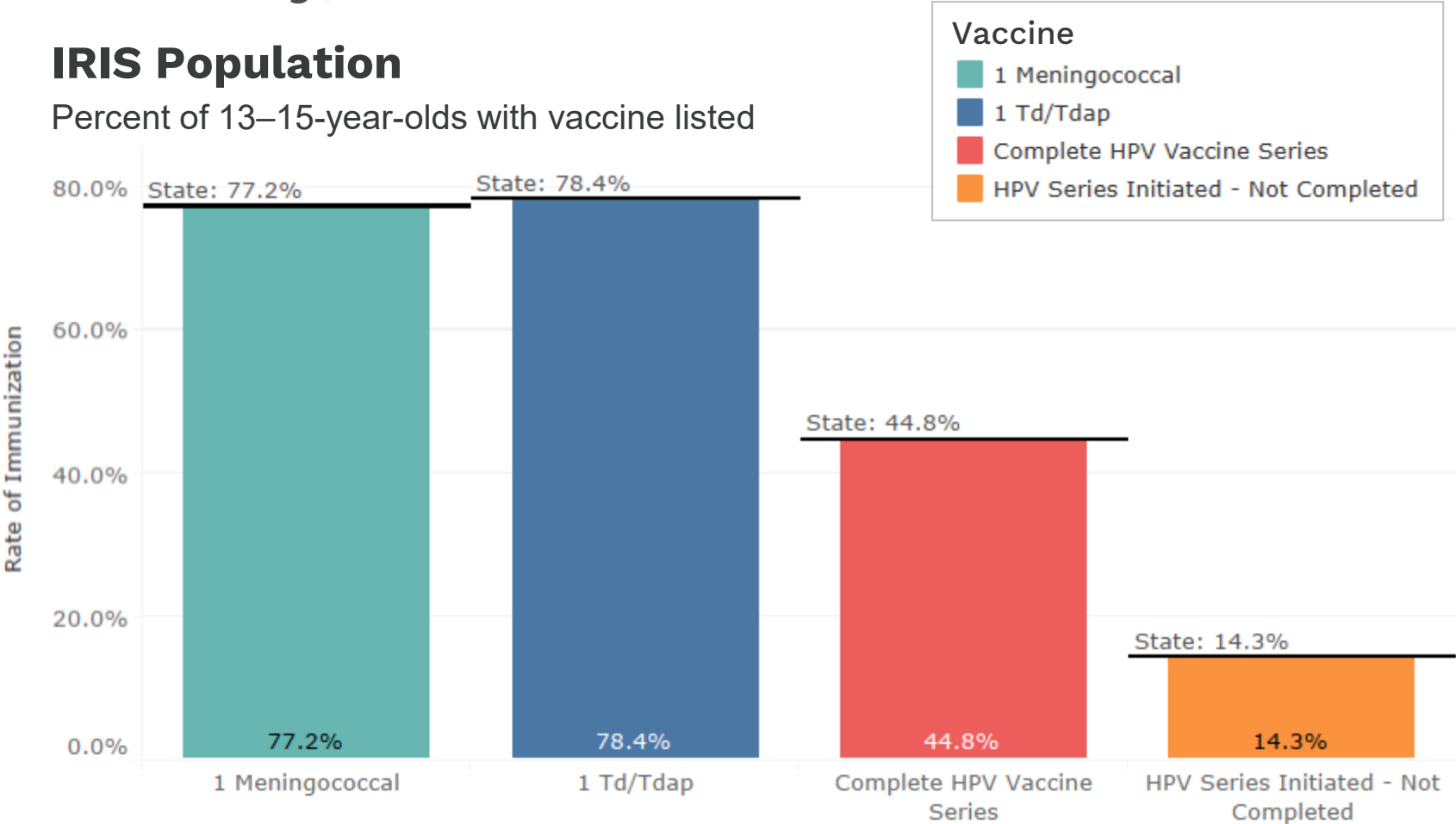
Adolescent Immunizations for State of Iowa by IRIS Population

Immunization	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1 Meningococcal	67.4%	68.5%	75.0%	74.7%	79.4%	78.5%	77.9%	77.6%	77.8%	77.2%
1 Td/Tdap	83.4%	76.5%	78.9%	76.7%	80.4%	79.5%	79.0%	78.7%	79.0%	78.4%
2 MMR	86.0%	81.8%	83.2%	83.4%	84.3%	83.7%	84.0%	84.4%	85.7%	86.5%
2 Varicella	77.5%	76.4%	80.3%	81.5%	82.7%	82.4%	82.6%	83.2%	84.4%	85.4%
3 Hepatitis B	88.8%	86.5%	87.8%	88.2%	89.4%	88.9%	89.2%	89.7%	91.0%	92.0%
3-1-2-1-2 Series	58.3%	59.8%	66.8%	66.6%	72.0%	71.3%	71.3%	71.6%	72.5%	72.9%

HPV Vaccine Comparison in 13–15-year-olds in All County, Iowa – 2025

IRIS Population

Percent of 13–15-year-olds with vaccine listed



Tips & Tricks to Avoid Common VFC Program Noncompliance Issues

Temperature Monitoring— Download and Review Routinely

- ▶ TMD must have continuous monitoring and recording capabilities where the data can be routinely downloaded and reviewed every two weeks and whenever the data logger alarms
- ▶ The designated person reviews temperature logs at least weekly to ensure proper temperature recording and takes action if out of range temperatures are found on the logs during review
- ▶ Maintain temperature logs for at least 3 years for each unit either in electronic or paper format
 - If electronic, ensure other staff have access to records

VIS & VAERS

Requirement:

VFC Program providers should have readily available, up-to-date VISs for vaccines covered by VICP and relevant to the populations served.

Note: Providers should not delay use of an ACIP-recommended vaccine because a VIS is unavailable. For any ACIP-recommended product that does not have a VIS or Immunization Information Statement available, a provider may use the package insert, written FAQs or any other document to inform patients about the benefits and risks of the vaccine. Once a VIS is available, providers should use it.

[CDC Current VISs](#)

[Immunize.org Laminated QR Code Tables](#)

Key Staff Training

Requirement:

Primary & Back-up vaccine coordinators required to complete two *You Call the Shots* modules.

- [Vaccines for Children \(VFC\)](#)
- [Vaccine Storage and Handling](#)



Action Steps:

- ▶ Ensure Primary & Back-up vaccine coordinators complete trainings.

Temperature Documentation

Requirement:

- ▶ Designated staff must check and record refrigerator and freezer temperatures twice daily (at the beginning and end of each day).
- ▶ Designated staff must check and record the min/max temperatures at the start of each workday.
- ▶ Each temperature reading must note the time of the reading plus the name or initials of the person who assessed and recorded the reading.

Action Steps:

- ▶ Review temperature documentation to ensure compliance with Iowa VFC temperature monitoring protocols. The Iowa VFC Program recommends using Iowa HHS paper logs for manual temperature documentation.
- ▶ Temperature logs from Immunize.org can be used for temperature documentation, however the printed instructions do not meet Iowa VFC requirements.

Access to a Back-up DDL

Requirement:

- ▶ Iowa VFC Program providers shall have at least one back-up DDL, meeting VFC Program requirements with a valid and current certificate of calibration readily available.
 - Back-up device is recommended to have a different calibration expiration date from the primary DDL
 - If the back-up device is not physically on-site, a plan must be in place documenting how the back-up device will be accessed within an acceptable timeframe

Action item:

Ensure VFC Program provider location has access to a back-up DDL.

Expired Vaccines

Requirement:

- ▶ Expiration dates should be checked regularly (at least monthly) and stock rotated to ensure the soonest to expire are in front.
 - CDC best practice is to rotate weekly and whenever new vaccine is received.
- ▶ Expiration dates vary by type of vaccine or diluent and lot number.
 - Expiration dates that list only month & year are viable through the last day of the month.
 - Multi-dose vials of vaccine shall be administered until the expiration date printed on the vial or vaccine package unless otherwise noted in the vaccine package insert.

Action Steps:

- ▶ Rotate vaccine and check expiration dates
- ▶ Remove expired vaccines and diluents to avoid accidental administration
- ▶ Return all spoiled/expired public vaccines to CDC's centralized vaccine distributor within six months of spoilage/expiration
- ▶ Returns occur in IRIS; providers must manage returns in IRIS & receive shipping label

[Nonviable Vaccine Return Instructions](#)

Vaccine Wastage Reports

Iowa VFC Program Vaccine Ordering and Wastage

Statewide VFC Program Totals—2025

Doses Distributed	571,395
Doses Administered	490,033
Percentage Waste for Routine Vaccines ¹	4.6%

Provider-Specific Totals—2025

Doses Distributed	1,700
Doses Administered—2025	1,145
Doses Administered—2024	2,566
Monetary Value of Wasted VFC Vaccines—2025	\$1,054

- ▶ As of December 31, 2025, the Iowa VFC Program had 594 enrolled provider locations.
 - ▶ 163,326 VFC-eligible patients were served by Iowa VFC Program providers in the 2025 calendar year.
 - ▶ Nearly half of children in Iowa are VFC Program-eligible.
 - ▶ Each county in Iowa has at least one VFC provider.
- Thank you for your participation in the Iowa VFC Program!**

Provider-Specific Return & Wastage Data (2025 calendar year)²

Routine VFC Program Vaccines (Excluding COVID & Influenza Vaccine)³

1,480	Total doses ordered
10	Total reported wastage—2025 (doses)
102	Total reported wastage—2024 (doses)
0.7%	Percentage wastage-2025
\$1,037	Estimated cost of wasted doses—2025

Seasonal VFC Program Vaccines (COVID & Influenza Vaccine)⁴

220	Total doses ordered
1	Total reported wastage—2025 (doses)
60	Total reported wastage—2024 (doses)
0.5%	Percentage wastage-2025
\$17	Estimated cost of wasted doses—2025

¹ Percentage waste: provider-reported wastage & returns compared to orders for the 2025 calendar year

² Wastage totals include doses reported using a waste or return code

³ Order date and reported waste may be in different calendar years

⁴ Timeframe for seasonal orders and waste vary based on distribution date, season and dates wastage/returns reported

Data through 12/31/2025

How did 2025 compare to 2024?

CDCs threshold for maximum vaccine wastage and returns is 5% per year. In the 2025 calendar year, Iowa's VFC Program waste and returns was 4.59% for routine vaccines (COVID and flu excluded). By comparison, the 2024 calendar year value was 4.38%.

VFC Program providers ordered fewer vaccine doses but served 1,750 more VFC-eligible patients in 2025 than in 2024.

Tips to reduce vaccine waste and program goals for 2025:

Avoid Over-Ordering Vaccine

Inventory on hand should not exceed two months' anticipated demand, or one ordering cycle, whichever is greater.

Use Doses Administered Reports to determine vaccine order quantities

Temperature Excursions

In the event of a vaccine temperature excursion, or receipt of a vaccine shipment with a TagAlert error, do not discard or waste vaccine. Contact McKesson and the Iowa VFC Program for guidance on vaccine viability and next steps.

Monitor Vaccine Expiration Dates

If inventory is due to expire in less than four months, contact the VFC Program at iowaVFC@hhs.iowa.gov for a list of providers with similar inventories to contact for a potential transfer.

Keep vaccines with the shortest expiration dates at the front of storage units

CDC requires the Iowa VFC Program maintain a vaccine restitution policy to address instances of on-going provider negligence resulting in the wastage of VFC Program vaccines. Iowa's [VFC Vaccine Restitution Policy](#) describes what is considered negligent behavior and situations that may require vaccine restitution.

Questions regarding provider-level data may be directed to iowaVFC@hhs.iowa.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of the Iowa Vaccines for Children Program.

Influenza Vaccine Prebook

Review doses administered data and patient population for the current season to forecast need for the 2026-2027 Influenza season.

The VFC Program pads a small quantity of additional doses for new enrollments and providers whose inventory is depleted.

Report Wastage and Returns to CDC

Nonviable VFC vaccines should be returned for federal excise tax credit.

Follow the [Nonviable Vaccine Return Instructions](#) for guidance.


Attend Quarterly VFC Webinars

Register for 2025 VFC webinars on [January 21](#), [April 22](#), [July 22](#) and [November 18](#).

Complete Annual VFC Training

VFC staff must complete CDCs You Call the Shots (YCTS) modules for "Vaccines for Children" and "Vaccine Storage and Handling."

Updates to Data Quality Dashboard

		IRIS Data at Rest Dashboard Iowa Immunization Program		Test Facility A123456	
1.2 - Patient middle name is present 83.0% Good		1.22 - Vaccine lot expiration date is present 99.0% Good			
1.12 - Patient ethnicity is present 100.0% Good		1.23 - Vaccine eligibility code is present 95.0% Needs Improvement			
1.13 - Patient phone number is present 85.0% Needs Improvement		2.10 - Vaccine administration code was administered at an improbable age 0.0% Good			
3.1 - Administered vaccinations are entered into IRIS within one calendar day from administration date 100.0% Good		3.2 - Patient entry into IRIS less than 30 days from birth 98.0% Good			
3.5 - Patient entry into IRIS > 60 days from birth 3.0% Good		3.8 - Administered dose entry into IRIS > 14 days from admin date 0.0% Good			

Data from Iowa Immunization Registry (IRIS)
 Cohort includes all children in IRIS 2 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2024

General Reminders & Resources

Ordering Replacement DDLs

- ▶ Immunization Program has Log Tag 400s available to VFC Program providers at no cost
- ▶ Send email request to iowaVFC@hhs.iowa.gov containing:
 - VFC PIN
 - Number of refrigerator DDLs requested
 - Number of freezer DDLs requested
 - If a docking station is needed
- ▶ Remember to check and set appropriate parameters and alarms

2026 VFC Program Webinar Series

► **Wednesday, July 22, at 12 p.m.:**

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/e9de5c8a-ca5f-4615-b363-c38bc27269a9@8d2c7b4d-085a-4617-8536-38a76d19b0da>

► **Wednesday, November 18, at 12 p.m.:**

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/b0c0ddd4-e947-4a66-b520-761a9cd48237@8d2c7b4d-085a-4617-8536-38a76d19b0da>

Webinars are recorded and can be found on the Iowa VFC Program website: <https://hhs.iowa.gov/immunization/vfc>

IRIS Webinars of 2026

IRIS Webinar Schedule – 2026

The following schedule provides dates, times, details and registration links for the monthly IRIS webinars. Topics will include documentation of vaccine doses administered, IRIS inventory management, mass vaccination, reminder recall, vaccine transfers, documentation of vaccine wastage, patient search tips, how to unlock user accounts and how to reset user passwords.

Registration is required for each session via Teams. Please contact the IRIS Help Desk at 800-374-3958 with any questions.

Tuesday, May 12,
noon to 1 p.m.

Meeting ID: 229 756 843 278 64, **Passcode:** kR23y4Um
[Register for the May 12 webinar](#)

Tuesday, June 9,
noon to 1 p.m.

Meeting ID: 264 060 093 919 84, **Passcode:** 6Nc2TK9p
[Register for the June 9 webinar](#)

- ▶ Registration is required for each session (via Teams)
- ▶ [2026 IRIS Webinar Schedule](#)
- ▶ Contact the IRIS Help Desk at 800-374-3958 with any questions



Topics include:

- IRIS inventory management
- Mass vaccination
- Reminder recall
- Vaccine transfers
- Document doses administered
- Documentation of vaccine wastage
- Patient search tips
- How to unlock user accounts and reset user passwords

VFC Program Resources

- ▶ Iowa HHS Immunization Program:
<https://hhs.iowa.gov/health-prevention/vaccines-immunizations>
- ▶ VFC Program:
<https://hhs.iowa.gov/health-prevention/vaccines-immunizations/vfc>
- ▶ Iowa HHS Immunization Materials:
[Online order form](#)
- ▶ Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal—Immunization Data:
<https://hhs.iowa.gov/data-reports/health-disease/immunization>

Immunization Program Phone Tree Changes

Title	Extension
IRIS – Immunization Records	800-831-6293 ext. 0
General Immunization Questions & Perinatal Hepatitis B Coordinator	800-831-6293 ext. 1
VFC Coordinator	800-831-6293 ext. 2
Vaccine Distribution Coordinator	800-831-6293 ext. 3
Assessment Coordinator (IQIP)	800-831-6293 ext. 4
VFC and Assessment Manager	800-831-6293 ext. 5
VFA Program Coordinator	800-831-6293 ext. 5

Questions?

Iowa VFC Program
iowaVFC@hhs.iowa.gov
Phone: 1-800-831-6293
Fax: 1-800-831-6292



Health and
Human Services