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MEMORANDUM

TO: VFC and AIP Program Medical Directors and Vaccine Coordinators and Local Health Department Administrators

FROM: IDPH Immunization Section

DATE: October 7, 2025

RE: 2025–2026 COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering Open for VFC and AIP

This notification is for VFC and AIP providers in Illinois *outside* of the City of Chicago. Provider offices within the City of Chicago should refer to guidance from the Chicago Department of Public Health.

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Key Actions for VFC and AIP Providers: 2025-2026 COVID-19 Vaccines

- Ordering: Providers enrolled in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program and the Adult Immunization Program (AIP) may begin placing orders for the 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine.
- Product Availability: Review the expected 2025–26 vaccine products outlined in this notice.

- Patient Education: No new VIS has been issued. Use manufacturer-developed *Information for Recipients and Caregivers* until the VIS is updated.
- Referral Planning: If you do not plan to stock COVID-19 vaccines, identify an accessible partner site and document referral arrangements for your patients.
- Safety Counseling: Incorporate FDA's updated warning labels on myocarditis and pericarditis in males ages 12 to 24 years into routine risk–benefit counseling.
- Medicaid: Review the updated Medicaid fee schedule. Direct billing questions to HFS.

FDA and CDC Recommendations for 2025–2026 COVID-19 Vaccines

- On May 22, 2025, [FDA's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee](#) (VRBPAC) advised manufacturers to produce monovalent, JN.1-lineage-based COVID-19 vaccines for fall 2025, with preference for the LP.8.1 strain.
- On August 27, 2025, the FDA approved the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccines for adults aged 65 years and older as well as for younger individuals aged 6 months through 64 years with at least one underlying condition that increases their risk for severe COVID-19 outcomes. Age eligibility for each vaccine depends on the brand.
- On September 19, 2025, the ACIP reconvened to discuss COVID-19 vaccines for the 2025–2026 season. Rather than issuing a universal vaccination recommendation for any age-based or high-risk groups, ACIP recommended vaccination through individual-based decision-making (shared clinical decision-making). **This applies to all persons ages 6 months and older.**
- On October 6, 2025, these recommendations were endorsed by the Acting CDC Director and are official CDC policy. This was posted to the CDC website on October 6, 2025. With this action, CDC has opened ordering for the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program and the Adult Immunization Program (AIP). **VFC and AIP providers may now begin placing orders for publicly funded COVID-19 vaccine.**

IDPH Actions

- On September 12, 2025, Governor Pritzker issued an [Executive Order to Protect Life-Saving Immunization Access for Illinoisans](#).
- On September 22, 2025, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Immunization Advisory Committee (IAC) convened to provide recommendations to Director Vohra.
- On September 23, 2025, **Director Vohra adopted the IAC's recommendations** for fall respiratory vaccines in Illinois and released several documents, including a [one pager describing the vaccine guidance](#), a [Dear Colleague Letter](#), a [Health Alert](#), and a [Standing Order](#) for administration of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccines.
- Illinois' approach emphasizes that COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and important for protecting families and strengthening public health.

More information can be found on IDPH's [Immunization](#) webpage.

Availability of 2025–2026 Seasonal COVID-19 Vaccines

Now that the Acting CDC Director has adopted the ACIP recommendations, procurement is proceeding, and enrolled providers can immediately order vaccines through IDPH’s Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program and Adult Immunization Program (AIP).

Illinois will receive a weekly threshold of vaccines, and provider orders will be reviewed accordingly. While demand for a given vaccine cannot be precisely predicted, the following chart identifies specific brands and NDC codes that will be available to order.

Table 1.

Publicly Funded 2025–2026 COVID-19 Vaccines						
Brand	Age Group	Type	Packaging	Mfr	NDC Code	Program
Comirnaty	5 - 11 years	mRNA	10mcg/0.3mL SDV 10 dose pack	Pfizer	00069- 2501-10	VFC
Comirnaty	12 years and older	mRNA	0.3mL PFS 10 dose pack	Pfizer	00069- 2528-10	VFC AIP
Spikevax	6 months - 11 years	mRNA	0.25mL PFS 10 dose pack	Moderna	80777- 0113-80	VFC
Spikevax	12 years and older	mRNA	0.5mL PFS 10 dose pack	Moderna	80777- 0112-96	VFC AIP
Nuvaxovid	65 years and older and 12 - 64 years with increased risk	Protein subunit, adjuvant	0.5mL PFS 10 dose pack	Novavax*	80631- 0207-10	VFC AIP
Abbreviations: Mfr = Manufacturer PFS = Single-dose Prefilled Syringe SDV = Single-dose Vial MDV3 = Multi-Dose Vial, 3 doses per vial mcg = microgram mL = milliliters VFC = Vaccines for Children Program AIP = Adult Immunization Program *Novavax, Inc. is partnering with Sanofi, which is leading commercialization efforts for Nuvaxovid						

Ordering Vaccines

For at least the first two weeks of ordering, providers should place orders as *limited quantity orders*. During this period:

- Select “Pediatric/VFC Limited Qty” in the *Order Intent* field when ordering for VFC-eligible children.
- Select “Adult/317 Limited Qty” in the *Order Intent* field when ordering for AIP-eligible adults.

The diagram illustrates the process of ordering vaccines. Two boxes at the top, 'VFC Orders' and 'AIP Orders', have red arrows pointing down to the 'Order Intent' field in a form below. The form contains a red warning message: 'All Limited Quantity orders will be reviewed and processed by the Vaccine Program. Every attempt will be made to fill limited quantity orders at the quantities requested. If, due to supply constraints, orders cannot be completely filled, order quantities will be reduced and filled at the quantities available.' The 'Order Intent' field has four radio button options: 'Pediatric/VFC', 'Pediatric/VFC Limited Qty' (which is selected and highlighted with a red box), 'Adult/317', and 'Adult/317 Limited Qty' (also highlighted with a red box). Below this is the 'Order Summary' section, which currently shows 'Empty order'. At the bottom is the 'Add Vaccine' section with a search bar and a dropdown menu labeled 'All Vaccines'. A small note at the very bottom says 'Enter search for vaccine by group, brand name, manufacturer, or NDC. Or select from All Vaccines.'

Patient Education Materials

The current COVID-19 Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) is outdated as it refers specifically to the 2024–2025 vaccine. Because federal law requires that patient education be provided to each patient or caregiver prior to vaccine administration, providers should instead use the **manufacturer-supplied Information for Patients/Recipients and Caregivers** until the VIS is updated.

The provider package inserts, and patient/caregiver information sheets are available below:

[COMIRNATY Information for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

[SPIKEVAX Information for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

[MNEXSPIKE Information for Recipients and Caregivers](#) (note: not available this year for VFC or AIP ordering)

[NUVAXOVID Package Insert and Information for Patients and Caregivers](#)

[COMIRNATY Package Insert](#)

[SPIKEVAX Package Insert](#)

[MNEXSPIKE Package Insert](#)

VFC Stock and COVID-19 Vaccine

Per federal policy, VFC providers are required to maintain stock of all routine ACIP-recommended vaccines for their VFC-eligible populations. However, due to the unique considerations surrounding COVID-19 vaccination, the federal VFC program allows providers to exclude COVID-19 vaccines from their inventory if they are aware of referral locations and prepared to refer eligible children accordingly.

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If your site does not plan to stock COVID-19 vaccine, please identify a referral partner who:

- Provides COVID-19 vaccine to VFC-eligible children,
- Is reasonably accessible to your patient population, and
- Is willing and able to serve your patients.

If referring patients to a pharmacy, please confirm which age groups are vaccinated at that location prior to making referrals.

The [Vaccine Locator Dashboard](#) can assist providers in identifying other VFC sites in their area. Please note, however, that the dashboard does not include details on insurance acceptance, appointment availability, or whether a provider is taking new patients.

FDA Warning Labels

On June 25, 2025, Pfizer and Moderna have [updated the warning labels](#) for their COVID-19 vaccines (Comirnaty and Spikevax) to note that the highest observed risk of myocarditis and pericarditis occurs in males aged 12–24 years. This risk remains rare and generally treatable. These conditions have been previously recognized, and both products already included warnings regarding this risk.

Illinois Medicaid COVID-19 Provider Fee Schedule

The [Illinois Medicaid COVID-19 Provider Fee Schedule](#) has been posted to the HFS webpage. Providers with billing questions should contact HFS for assistance.

Contact Us for More Information

For help, questions or feedback, please contact the IDPH Immunization Section at dph.vaccines@illinois.gov or call 217-785-1455 and select option 2.