

Latest Updates and Resources

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Back to School Immunizations: Beat the Rush!



The new school year is just around the corner and now is the time to get pediatric patients caught up on vaccinations! Many [children need to catch up](#) to meet school immunization requirements and to stay protected against vaccine-preventable diseases such as whooping cough, measles, and chickenpox.

Appointments may become scarce as the summer break ends, and children could miss days at school waiting to get their immunizations. Your clinic's actions now can make all the difference!

Proactive Back-to-School Strategies to Consider:

1. **Use the immunization registry and your EHR** to identify children who missed well child visits and/or recommended immunizations.
2. **Reach out to schedule in-person appointments** using a [robocall script](#), [letter](#), or text.

3. **Plan back-to-school immunization catch-up clinics** at convenient times for working parents, including weekends and evenings.
4. **Administer needed immunizations at ALL visits**, not just well-child checks.
5. **Designate a certain number of “immunization-only” appointments** each day leading up to school entry.
6. **Use effective communication techniques.** Start with language that assumes a parent will accept vaccines for their child (e.g., “Your child needs three vaccines today.”). [Be prepared to answer any questions and address concerns.](#) Make a strong recommendation and share reasons why you support immunizations; personal accounts can be persuasive and memorable!
7. **Foster support for immunizations in your practice** by adopting [these practices.](#)

Don't miss our next VFC Afternoon TEAch with CDPH webinar, **Beating the Back to School Rush: Proactive Planning for School Vaccination Compliance & Exemptions** on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm (PT). [Register here!](#)

Back-to-School Immunization Resources:

- [Immunization Requirements for Pre-K](#)
- [Immunization Requirements for K-12th Grade](#)
- [Immunization Timing Schedule 2024](#)
- [Let's RISE Initiative \(CDC\)](#)



Thank you for keeping California kids healthy!

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Juneteenth Commemoration 2024

Among The United States Independence Day celebrations, we celebrate June 19th, when Union General Gordon Grander announced the end of the Civil War and slavery to thousands of formerly enslaved persons in Texas in 1865. They

were among the last to learn of their independence. Their freedom came more than two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, and this day came to be known as Juneteenth.

Black Americans continue to experience the impact of slavery and racism resulting in mistrust in public health. This sentiment contributes to lower vaccination rates among Black Americans compared to their white counterparts. [Listen to Meligha Garfield share his experience](#) about spreading awareness of the COVID-19 vaccine in his community.

Please join the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Immunization Branch as we acknowledge these challenges and their role in immunization disparities, [including COVID-19 vaccine](#), experienced by Black and African-Americans.

Let's work together to bridge the vaccination gaps in Black communities by encouraging vaccination and sharing the resources below:

- [Mpox Health Inequities](#)
- [CDPH Immunization Branch Webpage and Immunization Schedules](#)
- [Meligha Garfield ShotbyShot Story](#)
- [Health Equity at CDPH](#)
- Printable Flyer: [Expecting? Protect yourself and your baby against flu, RSV, whooping cough, and COVID-19!](#) (Order no-cost versions in English or Spanish using [this order form](#))
- CDPH's Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Division [Centering Black Mothers in California Report](#)
- View and download CDC's From Me, To You [communication resources](#)

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[Vaccines for Children \(VFC\) is Live in myCAvax!](#) **[Join us for these Supportive Webinars](#)**

myCAvax went live again on Monday, June 10, 2024, with the inclusion of the VFC program. VFC providers, please make sure to sign up and attend trainings for support. See registration links below. There are multiple sessions for each training with recordings, slide decks, and FAQs also available on the [Move to myCAvax page](#).

Note: Due to high demand, capacity has been extended with additional sessions.

VFC 102: Managing VFC Vaccine Inventory in myCAvax | [Registration link](#)

- Friday, June 21, 2024, 9:30 am – 10:00 am

VFC Office Hours

- **TOMORROW** - Thursday, June 20, 2024, 9:30 am – 10:00 am (PT) | [Registration link](#)
- **TOMORROW** - Thursday, June 20, 2024, 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm (PT) | [Registration link](#)
- Thursday, June 27, 2024, 9:30 am – 10:00 am (PT) - **RESCHEDULED TO** Friday, June 28, 2024, 11:00 am – 11:30 am (PT) | [Registration link](#)

For assistance related to the VFC program, please contact the VFC Customer Service Center at (877) 243-8832 or via email MyVFCVaccines@cdph.ca.gov.

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UPDATE: VFC Office Hours Schedule Change

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Thursday, June 27, 2024, 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm, VFC Office Hours has been rescheduled to Friday, June 28, 2024, from 11:00 am – 11:30 am.

All current registrants have been notified via Zoom and have already been transferred into the Friday, June 28, 2024, 11:00 am – 11:30 am session. For current registrants: If this time change does not work, you may find information for other VFC Office Hours sessions using this link: [myCAvax on EZIZ](#).

If you have not registered and would like to register for the Friday, June 28, 2024, 11:00 am – 11:30 am session, please register using this link: [VFC Office Hours Zoom Registration Link](#).

If you have any VFC-related questions, please email MyVFCvaccines@cdph.ca.gov or contact VFC Customer Service Center. Phone & hours: (877) 243-8832, Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm, PT, Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, PT.

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