

This year, the Association of Immunization Managers is hosting the Immunization Champion Award, an award program previously hosted by the CDC and known as the CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award.

In 2022, Dr. Alex McDonald was AIM's Immunization Champion Award recipient for California. Among Dr. Alex McDonald's many achievements, Dr. McDonald co-founded "[ThisIsOurShot](#)," a national, grassroots movement of healthcare heroes and allies that aims to build vaccine-trust and combat misinformation for a COVID-free world by elevating the voices of healthcare heroes as trusted messengers through stories, photos, and videos. Read more about his profile on [2022 Immunization Champion Awardees - Association of Immunization Managers](#) website.

This program has expanded to create more opportunities to recognize local immunization efforts in California. This email highlights the updates to the award process and [nomination packet](#) and it marks the launch of the nomination period for the Immunization Champion Award. **Nomination period is now open and will close at 5 pm on May 19, 2023.** We look forward to receiving your nominations. Please share this email with your networks.

Completed nomination forms can be sent via email to: MyVFCVaccines@cdph.ca.gov; use subject line: IZ Champion Award.

Updated Instructions for Nomination

Individuals can be recognized for their work in *any* vaccine category i.e. Flu, HPV, or COVID-19 across the lifespan or routine childhood vaccination.

Who is eligible?

- Coalition members
- Parents
- Healthcare professionals (e.g. physicians, pharmacists, nurses, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, medical assistants, etc)
- Community activists and leaders
- Community based organization members

Who is ineligible?

- State immunization program managers

- County, state, and federal government employees of health agencies
- Individuals who have been affiliated with/or employed by pharmaceutical companies
- Past awardees

Please refer to the [nomination packet](#) for full details on nomination guidelines and criteria. If you have any questions, please send your inquiries to MyVFCVaccines@cdph.ca.gov, use subject line: IZ Champion Award. Additional information can also be found at <https://www.immunizationmanagers.org/championsaward>.

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