



Chicago Department
of Public Health

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN NEWS BULLETIN

Chicago Department of Public Health – Immunization Program

Issue Number 12: April 20, 2022

The news bulletin serves to keep you aware of emerging VFC program, vaccine, and vaccine-preventable disease updates.

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Annual VFC Program Re-Enrollment

Re-enrollment is due 5/01/22!

The work your clinic does every day is part of a nationwide effort to protect thousands of children against vaccine-preventable diseases. Thank you for all you do as part of Chicago's strong network of hundreds of VFC providers.

To maintain your involvement in the VFC program and to continue to receive VFC vaccine, the CDC requires all clinics to re-enroll annually.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing vaccination effort, this year's enrollment period is slightly delayed, but has been streamlined to make it easier for your clinic to complete.

General Instructions

- Re-enrollment involves both **(1)** completing the 2022 Enrollment form in I-CARE. AND **(2)** printing, signing, and submitting the Provider Agreement and Acknowledgement Form via I-CARE.
- The Provider Agreement must be signed by the Medical Director and uploaded to your 2022 Enrollment form in I-CARE. The Provider Agreement and Acknowledgement are the only documents that must be printed and uploaded via I-CARE.
- If you have additional questions please email chicagovfc@cityofchicago.org or **call** at 312.746-5385.

Timely completion and submission of both of these items will ensure uninterrupted VFC vaccine delivery to your clinic. This year, the re-enrollment period is open from 3/21/22 – 5/01/22 in I-CARE. Please get started as soon as possible!

Upcoming Events

National Infant
Immunization Week:
4/24-30

[National Infant
Immunization Week
\(NIIW\) | CDC](#)

World Immunization
Week: 4/24-30

[World Immunization Week
2022 \(who.int\)](#)

Vaccination Week in The
Americas: 4/23-30

[Regional Launch Event](#)

VFC Regional Training Requirement Launching Soon

Just like last year, the 2022 Regional Meeting training will be held virtually in webinar format. However, the VFC Regional Training has not yet launched. Please look out for more updates as they are released in our next VFC Bulletin.

Please remember that it is **mandatory** that at least **two** VFC staff members from each clinic must complete this training.

Please note that webinar attendees will receive a link via email to complete an evaluation upon completion. Each attendee is required to complete an evaluation in order to receive a CME/CE certificate. This means ONE evaluation per attendee must be completed, regardless of if the presentation was watched together.

Direct any questions to chicagovfc@cityofchicago.org.

Perinatal Hepatitis B Reporting

In Illinois, Obstetric providers are mandated to test pregnant women for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg), and providers must report positive HBsAg test results to the Chicago Department of Health (CDPH) for each pregnancy.

The role of the CDPH Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP) is the case management of the HBsAg positive mothers and their infants.

This includes:

1. Assure identification of ALL POSITIVE HbsAg pregnant women and their infants
2. Assure all exposed infants receive HBIG and 1st dose of HepB vaccine within 12 hours of birth
3. Assures household contacts are vaccinated
4. Assures exposed infants complete 3 doses of HBV vaccines and post vaccination testing

Most of these pregnant women and infants are seen in your clinics. Please provide the requested information as soon as possible when you receive phone calls or faxes from the CDPH Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP).

A Letter From CDPH's New VFC Program Coordinator

Greetings VFC Providers,

My name is Victor Santiago and since the end of October 2021, I've been the new VFC Program Coordinator. Although I have met and interacted with a handful of you so far, I wanted to introduce myself to those I have yet to meet and share a little bit about my background. In my brief time in this new role, I have been impressed by the knowledge and dedication of the VFC and other Immunizations teams at CDPH. I am excited to join such a committed team and hope that I can contribute to its ongoing success.

Prior to joining the VFC program at CDPH, I worked in the Head Start program for 15 years at the Chicago Department of Family & Support Services (DFSS). I had various roles during my tenure but most recently I was Assistant Director of Program Administration and oversaw a data team that was responsible for collecting and analyzing early childhood data in an online system and a fiscal team that processed approximately 350 delegate contracts annually. At DFSS, I was fortunate enough to be an integral part of various leadership teams that led the implementation of a citywide pre-school online application, the consolidation of CPS' Pre-School-for-All and DFSS' Head Start early childhood programs and two citywide early childhood programs RFPs. I have an M.S. in Health Communication from Northwestern University and I am currently pursuing an MEd in Measurement, Evaluation, Statistics and Assessment from UIC.

Although I have learned a lot of about the VFC program and Immunization in general since becoming the VFC Program Coordinator less than six months ago, I obviously have much more to learn and I am looking forward to doing so from VFC team members and providers alike.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions about the VFC program and I will be happy to assist in any way I can. I am available via phone at 312-746-5381 and e-mail victor.santiago@cityofchicago.org.



Contact Us

**VFC Forms,
Policies, Program
Updates**

[www.chicagohan.org/
programs/vfc](http://www.chicagohan.org/programs/vfc)

**COVID-19 Vaccine
Information**

[www.chicagohan.org/
covid-19-vaccine](http://www.chicagohan.org/covid-19-vaccine)

**General VFC
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New VFC HAN
Bookmark the new [VFC HAN](#)
[website address](#) to find
answers to all your VFC
questions