



Chicago Department  
of Public Health

## VACCINES FOR CHILDREN NEWS BULLETIN

Chicago Department of Public Health – Immunization Program

Issue Number 5: May 26, 2021

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

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- Updates to Pfizer vaccine
- VFC Re-enrollment upcoming
- Regional Meeting req. due 6/30
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- Prepare for summer COVID-19 vaccination clinics

### COMING SOON

#### Chicago VFC Re-Enrollment

Please keep an eye out for details on how to re-enroll in the VFC program for 2021-2022.

*Chicago is grateful for your dedication to the program and looks forward to continuing our work together!*

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM DIRECTOR, JACKIE TIEMA-MASSIE!



Please join us in welcoming Jackie Tiema-Massie back to the CDPH Immunization Program. Jackie began her CDPH career in the Immunization Program and has been championing public health in various roles across CDPH for nearly 20 years since. We're thrilled to have her back with us, now at the helm. You'll hear from her as part of our annual Regional Meeting training in June (more details to come in our next bulletin).

*Welcome, Jackie!*

## Updates to Pfizer's COVID-19 Vaccine

- **Age Eligibility Change:** Pediatric patients aged 12-18 can receive Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine
- **Vaccine Spacing:** Patients no longer need to wait 2 weeks before/after receiving Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine to receive other vaccines
- **Storage Updates:** Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine can now be stored in your standard freezer for 2 weeks and then in the refrigerator for 30 days. Managed properly, that's 6 weeks of vaccine viability. This vaccine also now comes in packaging of either 450 or 1170 doses. Packing for smaller orders can be requested in doses of 50 or greater for delivery as well.

With the vaccine spacing and age eligibility updates, your practice can administer this vaccine **alongside** any other adolescent immunizations patients may be due for (i.e. HPV, meningococcal, Tdap, flu). Please see the attached 5/14 HAN release for details.

### Next steps:

- Enroll as a COVID-19 vaccine provider (see reverse for instructions)
- Make COVID-19 appointments for your 12-18 pediatric population
- Order COVID-19 vaccine (see reverse for instructions)

## VFC Regional Meeting Training Requirement due 6/30/21

Like last year, the 2021 Regional Meeting training will be held virtually in webinar format. This training will be available in the month of June, and **at least two VFC staff members from each clinic must complete the training by 6/30/21.**

Our next bulletin will contain details—be sure to read it carefully!

## Enroll as a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider

All Chicago pediatric offices should enroll **now** to serve as COVID-19 vaccine providers. It's a simple process completed in I-CARE: click [here](#) for instructions. If you still have questions, email [covid19vaccine@cityofchicago.org](mailto:covid19vaccine@cityofchicago.org).

## COVID-19 Vaccine Orders due Tuesdays

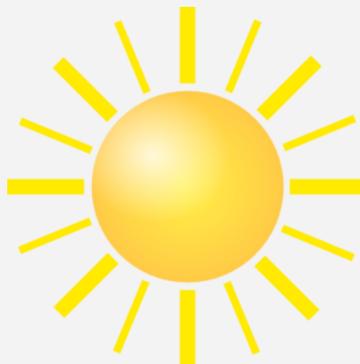
Please fill out [this survey](#) every Tuesday before 5pm to request COVID-19 vaccine for your clinic based on the following week's appointments.

Email [covid19vaccine@cityofchicago.org](mailto:covid19vaccine@cityofchicago.org) with questions.

## Prepare to Administer COVID-19 Vaccine in Summer Settings

As summer arrives and your clinic continues to vaccinate against COVID-19, be sure your practice is prepared for any warm-weather clinics!

See the attached quick tips sheet from CDC with storage and handling guidance for the three approved COVID-19 vaccines.



## Contact Us

VFC Forms,  
Policies,  
Program  
Updates

[www.ChicagoHAN.org/VFC](http://www.ChicagoHAN.org/VFC)

COVID-19  
Vaccine  
Information

[www.ChicagoHAN.org/covidvax](http://www.ChicagoHAN.org/covidvax)

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