

# What are the benefits of being a VFC Provider?

- Attract new patients
- Retain current patients
- Reduce overhead costs
- Provide comprehensive coverage of all ACIP-recommended vaccines
- Countless benefits to the families in your practice whose children will have access to all recommended childhood vaccines with no barrier due to cost



# What VFC providers are saying...

"The VFC Program provides an efficient mechanism to provide vaccinations to pediatric patients throughout New Mexico. The VFC Program is efficient partnership between the NMDOH, private insurers and community practitioners/organizations that delivers vaccines to pediatric and adolescent patients."

— Brian Etheridge, MD, FAAP  
President, New Mexico Pediatric Society



# VFC provider comments

*continued from previous panel*

"The Vaccines for Children Program allows us to protect the most vulnerable and precious members of our community. What a great gift for our children."

— Melissa Martinez, MD, Professor,  
UNM Health Sciences Center

"We thank the VFC Program for providing expensive vaccines; this prevents our young patients from getting diseases which helps keep our community safe from vaccine-preventable diseases. We are fortunate to have this program in our state."

— El Centro Family Health, Peñasco

"As a University of New Mexico Pediatrician, I rely on the wonderful benefits provided by the VFC Program. Knowing that children are covered for their vaccine needs is a source of peace of mind as their shots will be provided for. In past years, our state had a below average performance in number of children vaccinated, and now we are at or above average. The VFC Program is a part of that success."

— Randall Knott, MD, UNM Hospital

"Vaccination is one of the best ways to help children stay healthy. We're proud to participate in the VFC program, and appreciate the opportunity to protect patients from preventable diseases regardless of their ability to pay for vaccine."

— Helen Liu, RN, Bebe Care Pediatrics

"VFC offers our patients access to vaccines that would otherwise be unavailable to some of the remote areas in New Mexico. The VFC Program provides vaccines in a cost effective manner that helps PMS offer this critical component of public health care to our pediatric population. We appreciate this program and look forward to continued support and affiliation with VFC."

— Stephen M. Quesada,  
Presbyterian Medical Services

# Join the New Mexico Vaccines for Children Program!

# Information for Providers



New Mexico  
Vaccines for Children

# What is the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program?



The VFC Program is a federally-funded program that provides vaccines at no cost for children who might not otherwise be vaccinated because of an inability to pay.

The goal of the VFC Program is to protect against vaccine-preventable diseases by removing or reducing cost barriers to vaccination.

Through a combination of federal and state funding, enrolled providers order and receive all childhood vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) **at no cost**.

The public health objective of the VFC Program is to ensure a seamless vaccine distribution system and easy access to all recommended childhood vaccines.

For more information, FAQs and educational requirements  
<https://nmhealth.org/about/phd/idb/imp/vfc>



NMDOH Immunization Program  
[www.immunizenm.org](http://www.immunizenm.org)  
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## How does VFC work?

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) contracts with vaccine manufacturers to buy vaccines at reduced rates. Enrolled providers order vaccines through the VFC Program and receive ACIP-approved childhood vaccines shipped directly to their site at no cost.

## Who can be a VFC Provider?

New Mexico providers who have a current medical license with prescription-writing privileges may enroll. Once your application is approved, VFC staff will visit the practice, review and verify the practice's ability to comply with program requirements, and ensure that key staff are trained and that the practice or clinic is approved to store and manage VFC vaccines.

## Who can I contact for more information? How do I apply?

- If you would like to begin the application process please complete and submit the VFC Provider Assessment: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F95KMYQ> and a member of the VFC staff will contact you.
- Contact the VFC Program Manager, Lynne Padilla, for additional information: [lynne.padilla-truji@state.nm.us](mailto:lynne.padilla-truji@state.nm.us)

## VFC Program Requirements

Requirements for participation include:

- VFC providers (except specialty clinics) agree to provide all age-appropriate ACIP-recommended vaccines to children in New Mexico
- Partner with the VFC Program to ensure that program requirements are met, and to protect the integrity of the program, patients, and vaccines, including annual recertification
- VFC providers agree to the proper storage and handling of vaccine, including:
  - ✓ Utilizing VFC-approved refrigerators and freezers
  - ✓ Using digital data loggers to monitor vaccine temperature
  - ✓ Storing, managing, and administering VFC and state-provided vaccine appropriately
- Participate in scheduled compliance visits and unannounced storage and handling visits
- Reconcile vaccine inventory monthly



For a more detailed summary of VFC Program requirements, please see pages two, three, and six of the Provider Agreement: <https://nmhealth.org/publication/view/form/513>