



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Good Afternoon Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program Providers,

Influenza vaccine allocations will begin on **Monday August 22, 2022**, for the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program. Allocations will occur on Mondays until Open Ordering is announced. An automatic email notification will be sent to the primary and back-up vaccine coordinators once flu doses are available in the Vaccine Allocation and Ordering System (VAOS).

A Few Reminders:

- All Flu allocations must be accepted in the Vaccine Allocation and Ordering System (**VAOS**) by noon on Friday of each week
- Prepare your Inventory in order to accommodate the seasonal doses
- **DO NOT** decrease your weekly flu allocations unless storage capacity is an issue
- Doses not accepted will return to the overall influenza allocation pool, which may delay your next allocation

Accepting Flu Allocations in VAOS

When you have a flu allocation to accept in VAOS, it will show in the **Vaccine Allocation** section on the accounts page, in "Created" status. The notification email will give detailed instructions on how to accept your weekly allocations.

Importance of Administering Flu Vaccine to your TVFC Population

The Texas Department of State Health Services Immunization Section continues to see a decline in flu vaccine coverage rates in the TVFC Program eligible populations, 6 months through 18 years of age.

UPDATE:2021-2022 Flu Season

TVFC providers closed out the 2021-2022 flu season with the lowest pediatric flu coverage rates to date. Texas ended the 2021-2022 flu season with a vaccination coverage rate of 24%, which fell far below the national flu vaccination coverage rate of 57.6%.

To achieve a higher flu coverage rate for the 2022-2023 season, it is important for TVFC providers to follow the steps listed below:

1. Order and administer enough vaccine for your patient population.
2. Communicate to your patient populations that it is flu season along with the importance and benefits of the flu vaccine.
3. Screen, recommend, administer, and document the flu vaccine for every eligible patient.
4. Properly store the influenza vaccines according to the TVFC Program storage and handling guidelines.

Should your clinic need additional TVFC Program flu vaccine, contact your Responsible Entity (RE).

For TVFC Program flu related questions, contact your RE.

Thank you for your continued partnership and participation in the TVFC Program.

Sincerely,

Texas Department of State Health Services

Immunizations Section