

# Vaccines For Children (VFC) Program

## Information for Healthcare Providers

### VFC will benefit your patients and your practice!

The VFC program provides all routine vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) at no cost to the participating healthcare provider.

### Benefits of the VFC program

Being a VFC provider is a sound investment in your practice and patients. It reduces your up-front costs because you will not have to pay to purchase vaccines for VFC-eligible children. Also, you can charge an administrative fee to offset your costs of doing business. Your patients benefit because they won't have to go somewhere else to get the vaccines they need.

The VFC program will:

- Keep your patients in their medical home
- Reduce your up-front costs
- Help provide quality care to vulnerable children and adolescents

### VFC Eligibility

Patients are eligible until they turn 19, if they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Medicaid-eligible
- Uninsured
- American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN)

- Underinsured (Underinsured children can only be vaccinated at a Federally Qualified Health Center [FQHC] or Rural Health Center [RHC])

### Becoming a VFC provider

You don't have to be a Medicaid provider to participate in VFC. Any healthcare provider authorized by their state to prescribe vaccines can be a VFC provider.

- Contact the VFC Operations Manager or Immunization Vaccine Program Recruiter to request enrollment. You may send an email request to [scvfc@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:scvfc@dhec.sc.gov) to request an enrollment packet.
- Request a SIMON user account: [simon.dhec.sc.gov/simon/Login.aspx](https://simon.dhec.sc.gov/simon/Login.aspx)  
If your provider site has never given immunizations, you will also need to request a provider account: [simon-qa.dhec.sc.gov/simon\\_qa/Login.aspx](https://simon-qa.dhec.sc.gov/simon_qa/Login.aspx).
- Once you have completed and returned enrollment forms, prepare for a site visit to go over the program's administrative requirements and proper storage and handling of vaccines.



### What does "Underinsured" mean?

Underinsured means your patient has health insurance, but it won't cover the vaccine(s) because the insurance:

- Doesn't cover any vaccines.
- Doesn't cover certain vaccines.
- Covers vaccines, but it has a fixed dollar limit or cap for vaccines. Once that fixed dollar amount has been reached, your patient becomes eligible for VFC vaccines.