# Vaccine For Children (VFC) Program Updates & COVID-19 Vaccination Program Q&A

Bureau of Immunization

New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene

July 2021



#### Agenda

- COVID-19 Vaccination Program Enrollment
  - CIR Access
  - Vaccine Provider Agreement System (VPAS)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering and Management
- COVID-19 Vaccination Program Guidance
- VFC Program Updates
  - VFC Compliance Visits
  - COVID-19 Vaccination Program Visit for VFC providers
  - 2022 Re-enrollment
- Declines in childhood vaccination rates
- School immunization requirements

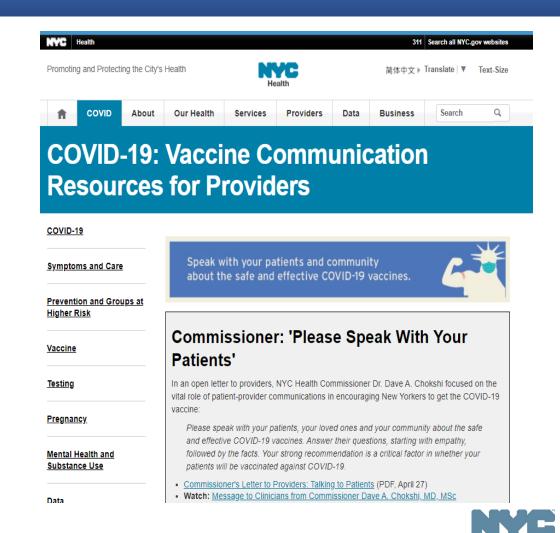


# COVID-19 Vaccination Program Enrollment



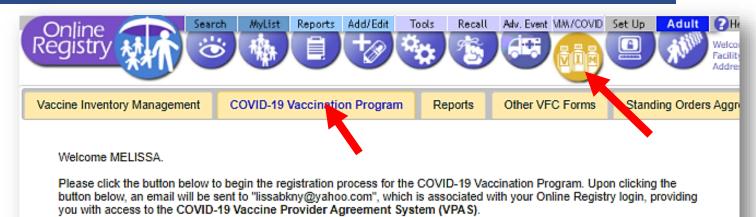
#### 'Use Every Opportunity'

- Recommend/offer COVID-19 vaccination at every encounter
- Providers are one of the most trusted source of COVID-19 vaccine information
- Provider recommendation is one of the strongest predictors of vaccination



## Accessing the Vaccine Agreement Invitation in the CIR

- To begin enrollment, a designated staff member should log on to the CIR Online Registry (nyc.gov/health/cir)
- Next, navigate to the VIM/COVID icon and select the COVID-19 Vaccination Program tab
- An invitation link to begin the enrollment process will be sent to your email address after clicking Start COVID-19 Vaccination Program Enrollment



#### Section A. Provider Requirements and Legal Agreement

This section must be completed one time per network. You will be able to view and enter data into this section and will be able to add collaborators to complete this section. This section will require electronic signatures of the following individuals:

Once you enter the VPAS, you will be able to complete the required COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement.

- Chief Medical Officer
- Chief Executive Officer or Chief Fiduciary Officer

#### Section B. Provider Profile Information:

One Section B should be completed for each vaccination site associated with your network. You will be able to view and enter data into this section and will be able to add collaborators to complete this section. This section will require the electronic signature of the following individual:

Medical or pharmacy director or the vaccination site's designated COVID-19 vaccination coordinator

Please note that you will be able to save any incomplete work and return to the Provider Agreement and Provider Profile at a later time. After completing the Provider Agreement, you will also be able to return to the VPAS to add additional vaccination sites (Section B. Provider Profile Information) as needed.



#### Vaccine Provider Agreement System (VPAS)

- Use the email associated with your Online Registry account to enter the system
- Staff can add additional collaborators to work on the documents via an email invitation
- Networks should complete a single COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Agreement
- VPAS users will need to add COVID-19 vaccine administration sites to the system so that separate Provider Profiles can be created for each location
- After submission of the COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Agreement and Provider Profile, users can return to the system to add additional administration sites and make changes to the documents in VPAS





#### **VPAS Overview**

#### Section A

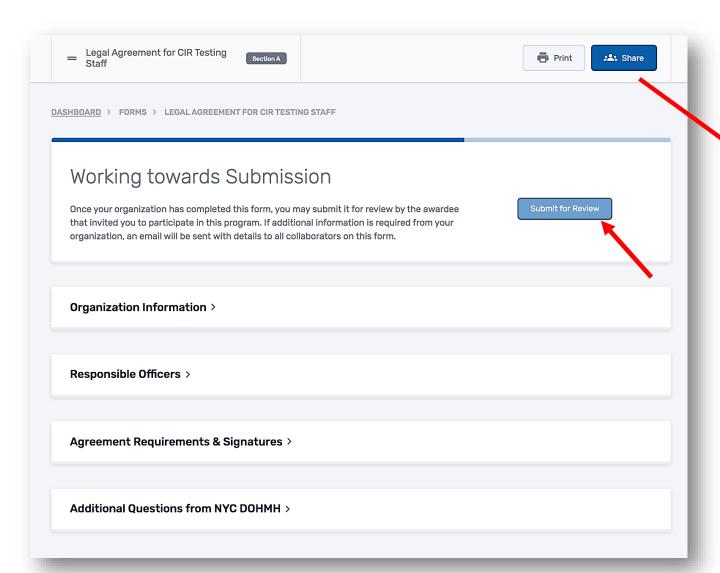
- Provider requirements and legal agreement
- Requires e-signatures:
  - Chief Medical Officer (CMO) or Equivalent and
  - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or Chief Fiduciary
- One Section A should be completed per network or group

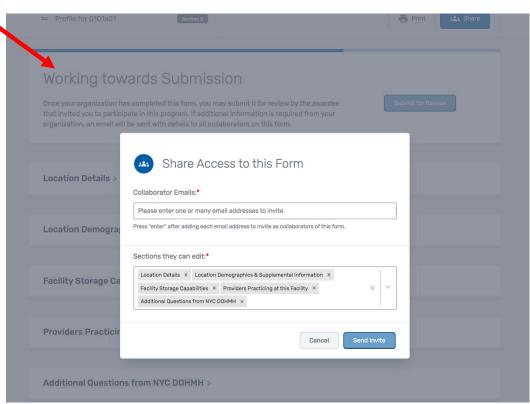
#### Section B

- A separate Section B is required for each vaccine administration site in a group or network
- Identify COVID-19 Vaccine Coordinators
  - Primary and Back-Up Required
- Shipping location and hours
- Size and type of population served
- Type of facility
- Vaccine storage capacity
- Provider information
- E-signature of Medical/Pharmacy Director or location's Vaccine Coordinator



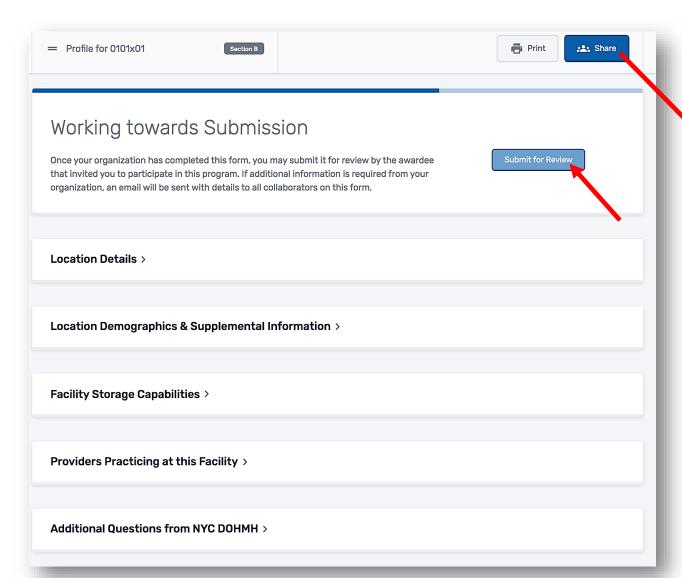
#### Section A Overview

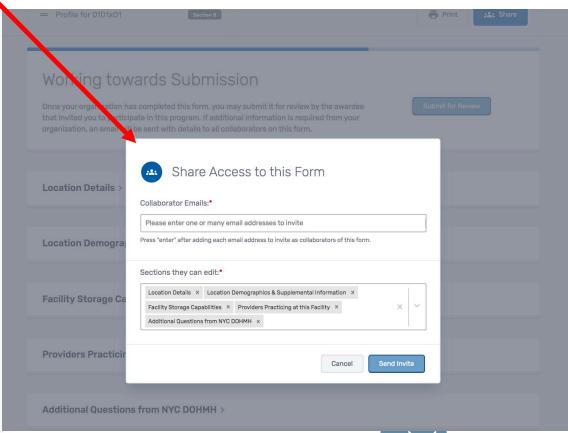






#### Section B Overview





## COVID-19 Vaccine Program Application Rejection



Your Organization's COVID-19 Vaccine Program Section B application for 1555Z01 has been rejected

#### COVID-19 Vaccination Program Application

Dear Provider,

Thank you for your recent enrollment (Section B) of your network and individual facilities in the New York City (NYC) Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Health Department) COVID-19 Vaccination Program using the Vaccine Provider Agreement System (VPAS). Unfortunately, your enrollment application for facility 1555Z01 has been rejected.

View Rejected Submission

Or copy and paste the following URL into your browser's address bar:

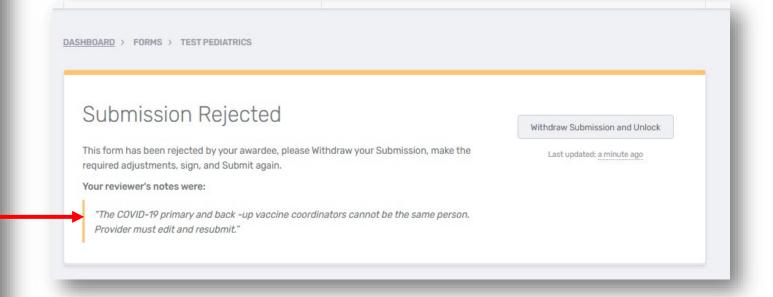
https://nyc.vaccineagreement.org/form/69aef08c-af35-4b46-a200-2eab5ca237a0/

Please log into VPAS using your email, navigate to your dashboard and select the form(s) in rejected status, review the rejection notes located at the top of your screen, then select the "withdraw submission and unlock" button to correct all errors identified and resubmit for review.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Bureau of Immunization

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene





#### COVID-19 Vaccine Program Application Approval



#### COVID-19 Vaccination Program Application

Dear Provider.

Thank you for your recent enrollment of your network and individual facilities in the New York City (NYC) Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) COVID-19 Vaccination Program. Your enrollment application (Section B) has been approved for Facility Code 1555Z01. Your PIN for the COVID-19 Vaccination Program is BAACV9999.

To place your COVID-19 vaccine order, log into the <u>CIR Online Registry</u> ONE HOUR after receiving this email. Be sure to use the Online Registry User ID that is associated with the CIR Online Registry Facility Code noted on this approved COVID-19 enrollment application. Please order enough vaccine to cover your healthcare personnel and patients when pre-booking COVID-19 vaccine. Partial vaccine shipments will be sent incrementally as vaccine becomes available.

Along with prebooking COVID-19 vaccine your site will need for health care personnel and eligible patients and community members, you will now be asked to submit a partial order for the number of COVID-19 vaccines your facility is able to administer in one week. Going forward, place an order by Monday at 12pm to receive vaccine for the following week. If you did not receive vaccine for the current week, your request will rollover to the next week and you will not need to re-enter an order. After receiving vaccines, you are required to submit and reconcile your first and second dose on-hand COVID-19 vaccine inventory by lot number. Please see the attached guidance for ordering and managing inventory in the VIM.

Even though you may place a COVID-19 vaccine order, vaccine distribution will be based on priority groups put forth by the New York State Department of Health and it may take several weeks before your practice receives vaccine.

In addition, it is required that you report COVID-19 vaccinations to the Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR) within 24 hours of administration. You may report in one of 3 ways:

- The preferred option is via direct connection from your electronic health
  record (EHR). You can connect your EHR directly to the CIR and report in real
  time as you are vaccinating. To achieve this, you will need to place a ticket with
  your EHR vendor to install an immunization interface with the CIR. The EHR
  vendor will need to reach out to us at <a href="mailto:cir.interop@health.nyc.qov">cir.interop@health.nyc.qov</a> to set up and
  test the interface before you can report your vaccinations. You must also complete
  the <a href="mailto:Healthcare Provider Confidentiality Agreement">Healthcare Provider Confidentiality Agreement</a> and email it to
  <a href="mailto:cir.interop@health.nyc.qov">cir.interop@health.nyc.qov</a> or fax it to (347) 396-2559.
- Through the <u>Online Registry (OR)</u>, the CIR's web-based application. You already
  obtained access to the <u>OR</u> in order to sign the COVID-19 Vaccine Provider
  Agreement and to order COVID-19 vaccine. You can log into the <u>OR</u> and report
  COVID-19 vaccinations, one by one.
- Via a flat file. If you have a programmer on site, they can compile a file from your electronic system and send it to us through a secure website. Please email rkabir@health.nyc.gov for more information.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Bureau of Immunization

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene



#### **VPAS** Reminders

- Access VPAS using the Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge browsers
- If your invitation is unopened for more than 6 hours the link will expire;
   a new link will be sent to you
- A new link will be sent to you if you change computers
- Once your invitation is activated you can access VPAS here:
  - o https://nyc.vaccineagreement.org/
- Section A and B must be associated when submitted in order to be considered complete
- Vaccine ordering is only enabled when Section A and B are approved in VPAS

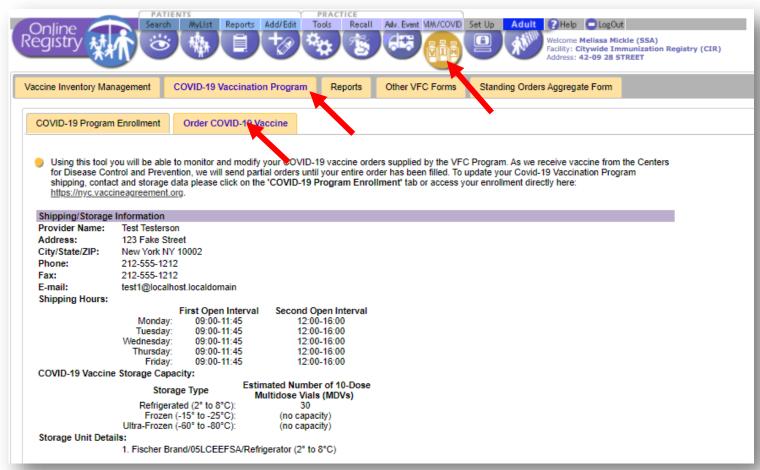


# COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering & Management



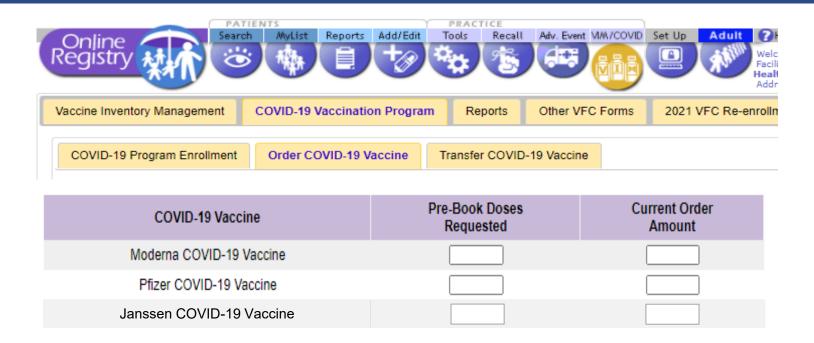
# COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering and Management

- Log-on to the CIR Online Registry
   <u>www.nyc.gov/health/cir</u> and
   navigate to the VIM/COVID icon,
   select 'COVID-19 Vaccination
   Program' and the 'Order COVID-19
   Vaccine' tab
- First, review information entered during COVID-19 Vaccination Program enrollment
- Any changes should be made directly within the VPAS enrollment system





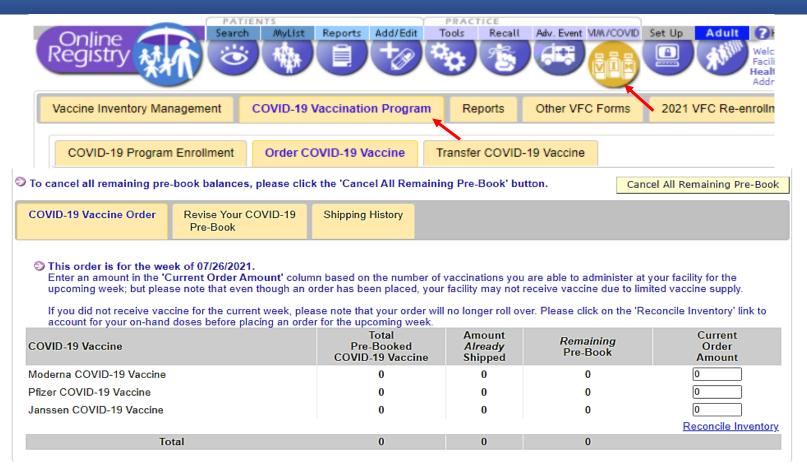
#### Place Your COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-book Request



- Enter your initial COVID-19 vaccine Pre-book and Current Order amounts
  - Pre-Book Doses Requested should reflect the total number of doses needed overall for all healthcare personnel, eligible persons and patients for your facility
  - **Current Order Amount** should reflect the number of vaccinations your site is able to administer in a two-week period.



#### Place Your COVID-19 Vaccine Weekly Order



- Enter your COVID-19 vaccine Current Order amounts
  - Current Order Amount should reflect the number of vaccinations including 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> doses that your site is able to administer in a one-to-two-week period.
- COVID-19 vaccine orders expire 14 days after the Order Date and will not roll over.
  - Your site can have one open order per vaccine type.
  - o If you need to amend your order, the existing order must be cancelled first.



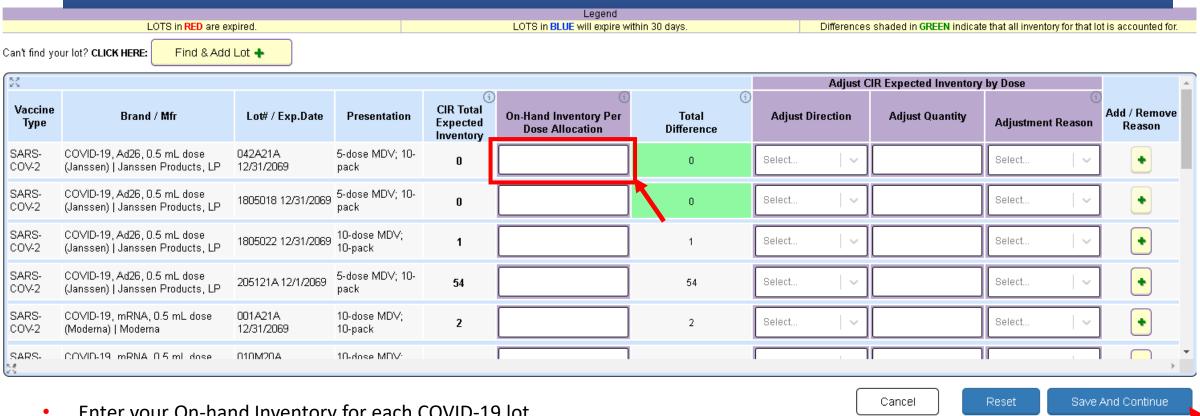
#### Reconcile COVID-19 Vaccine Inventory

- Request vaccine on an as-needed basis. Click on the 'Reconcile Inventory link' to enter your on-hand inventory
  - Doses are available in the following increments: Moderna-140, Pfizer-450, Janssen-100
- Even though an order has been placed, it is not guaranteed it will be filled
- COVID-19 vaccine orders with "In Progress" or "Complete" status cannot be canceled
  - Once "In Progress" COVID-19 vaccine orders are processed, you may place a COVID-19 vaccine order again
- COVID-19 vaccine orders with a "Pending" or "No vaccine shipment for the week of mm/dd/yyyy" status can be canceled

COVID-19 Vaccine	Total Pre-Booked COVID-19 Vaccine	Amount <i>Already</i> Shipped	Remaining Pre-Book	Current Order Amount
Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine	200	200	0	
Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine	1,950	1,950	0	Last Reconciliation: 06/25/2021  Reconcile Inventory
Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine	0	0	0	<u>Reconcile inventory</u>
Total	2,150	2,150	0	

		Prior Orders				
Order Date	COVID-19 Vaccine	Order Amount	Shipped Amount	Status		
03/30/2021	Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine	1,000		In Progress	Cancel	W
03/30/2021	Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine	1,170		In Progress	Cancel	

#### Reconcile COVID-19 Vaccine Inventory



- Enter your On-hand Inventory for each COVID-19 lot
- Enter a '0' if you have no vaccine doses to enter
- Your CIR Total Expected Inventory should match your On-hand Inventory
  - To balance your inventory, enter the **Adjust Direction**, then **Adjust Quantity**, and then select an **Adjustment Reason** 
    - This will update your CIR Expected Inventory
  - To add additional adjustment reasons, use the "+" and "-" icons from the Add/Remove Reason column
- Please fill in ALL entry fields before pressing the Save and Continue button



#### Vaccine Redistribution & Transfers

- Vaccine redistribution is the process by which vaccine is physically moved and possession is transferred from the enrolled provider that first received the vaccine shipment to another enrolled provider who will store and administer the doses
- Movement of vaccine outside of NYC is not permitted.
- Vaccine redistributions must first be approved by the NYS Department of Health before being documented in the CIR. NYS Redistribution Form can be found here:
  - https://immunize.nyc/provider-client/web/pdf/Redistribution QA Request Form CDC Agreement 1.1.21 2309.pdf
- Once approved, this redistribution from within your network or from other sources must be managed in the CIR Online Registry
- Email <u>COVIDVax@health.nyc.gov</u> for further information or assistance with vaccine redistribution



# COVID-19 Vaccination Program Guidance



#### COVID-19 Vaccination Program Requirements

- Complete a COVID-19 Vaccine Management Plan
- Have Emergency Use Authorizations (EUAs) for each vaccine product on site
  - Vaccine administration
  - Vaccine storage details
- Have information about CDC-VSAFE program on site
- Have logs to track vaccine movement out of storage units
  - Length of time at room temperature
  - Length of time that vaccine is being moved
- Report vaccine wastage in CIR and complete a <u>temperature excursion</u> form



#### COVID-19 Vaccination Program Guidance

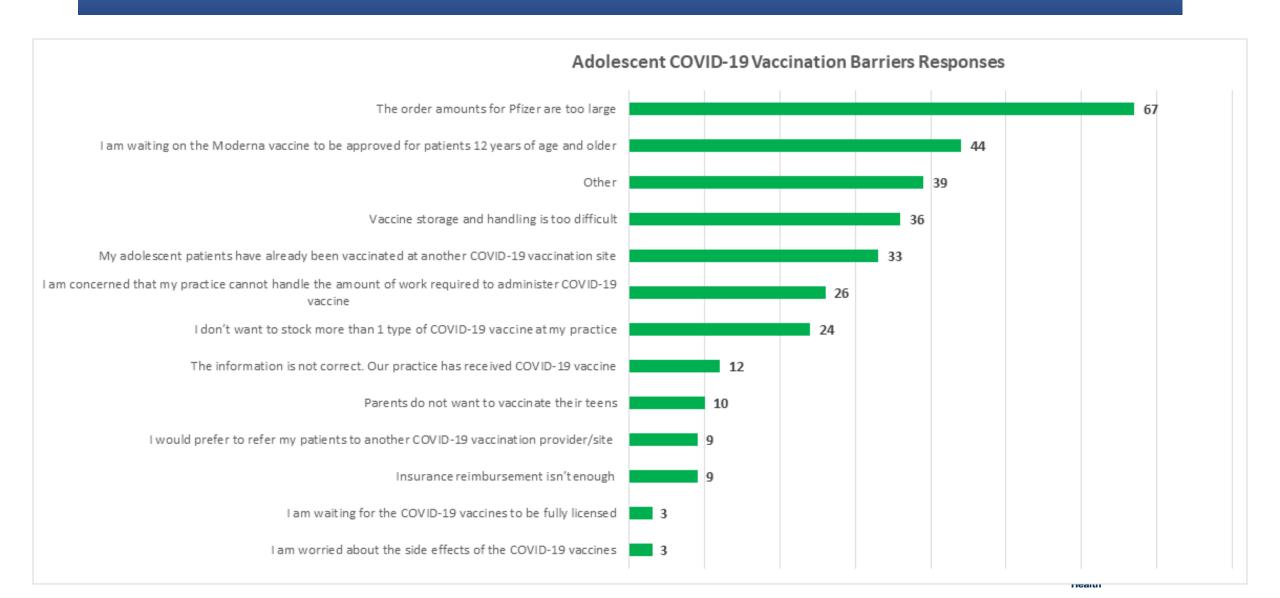
- All doses of COVID-19 vaccine are 'universal doses'
  - Vials of vaccine may be used for first or second dose administration
    - Each dose in a vial may be used for first or second dose administration
  - Place vaccine orders for total doses (first doses + second doses) of vaccine that can be used in a 1-2 week period
  - Providers will no longer automatically receive vaccine orders to cover 2<sup>nd</sup> doses of Moderna and Pfizer vaccine



#### Vaccine Wastage Should Not be a Barrier

- As access to COVID-19 vaccine increases, it is important for providers to:
  - Take every opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person who wishes to be vaccinated
  - Accommodate unscheduled patients wishing to be vaccinated, rather than asking them to return for vaccination later
- This may increase the likelihood of leaving unused doses in a vial
  - While enrolled providers must continue to follow best practices to use every dose possible, it should not be at the expense of missing an opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person when they are ready to get vaccinated
  - You are allowed to open a vial in order to administer a dose to one patient

#### COVID-19 Vaccination Program Barriers



# COVID-19 Vaccination Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- How long does the enrollment process take?
  - Completing and submitting the COVID-19 enrollment application should take about 30 minutes. Once your application is submitted to DOH for review, it should take about 24 hours before being approved. If there are errors or questions about your application, approval may take longer.
- I submitted my application but have not yet received an approval from DOH?
  - If you submitted only section A, your application will not be processed. You must submit a section B. Three email reminders are sent out to all providers who have incomplete applications.
- Do I need to be enrolled to receive COVID vaccines?
  - o Yes.
- Can I vaccinate privately insured patients with COVID-19 vaccines?
  - Yes, screening for eligibility is not required. A patient's insurance should not be a factor for COVID vaccination.



# COVID-19 Vaccination Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- Do I need to report the vaccine administered within 24 hours?
  - Yes, all COVID 19 vaccination doses administered must be reported to the CIR Online Registry within 24 hours.
- Can I administer a dose of Pfizer vaccine and one dose of Moderna to a pediatric patient?
  - Mixing vaccine types is not currently recommended.
- Can COVID vaccines be administered with other routine pediatric vaccines?
  - Yes, COVID-19 vaccines may now be administered along with other non-COVID-19 vaccines without regard to timing.
- Will I be fined if I don't administer COVID vaccine within a specific time period?
  - No, there is no longer a time frame by which providers must administer COVID vaccine doses received



# COVID-19 Vaccination Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- Can I receive less than 450 doses of Pfizer vaccine?
  - Yes, NYC DOHMH can send you trays of 150 doses of Pfizer vaccine
  - Email <u>COVIDVax@health.nyc.gov</u> to receive these trays
- Do I need an ultra-cold unit to store Pfizer vaccine?
  - No, Pfizer vaccine can be stored in a regular freezer for 2 weeks and in the refrigerator for an additional 30 days.
- Will Moderna vaccine be approved for adolescents 12-17 years?
  - Yes, Moderna should be approved for use in this population later this month.
- What is the insurance reimbursement for administering COVID vaccine?
  - Medicaid administration fee for COVID vaccination has increased and it is currently \$40 per dose
    - Retroactive
    - Applies to managed care and fee for service
  - Commercial plans have indicated they are matching this fee



#### VFC Program Updates



#### Types of Site Visits

- VFC compliance visits
  - Inspection of the vaccine storage unit and thermometers
  - Review of randomly selected charts for VFC eligibility
  - Identify and address educational needs
- COVID-19 vaccination program visits
  - Assess adherence to program requirements and recommendations
  - o Identify and address provider location strengths and challenges
  - Identify and address educational needs
  - Ensure vaccine recipients are receiving properly managed and viable vaccine
- Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers (IQIP) visits
  - Restarting in 2022
  - Identify key quality improvement (QI) strategies that can improve immunization service delivery in your practice so that more children are vaccinated on time and protected against vaccine-preventable diseases



#### VFC Re-Enrollment

- Providers are required to re-enroll in the VFC program annually
  - Complete 2 CDC virtual trainings
  - Complete VFC re-enrollment form in the CIR Online Registry and upload training certificates to the online form
- 2022 Re-enrollment
  - Opens in October, 2021
  - Deadline for completion is December 31, 2021
  - Vaccine ordering privileges will be suspended for providers who do not reenroll by the deadline



#### Required Trainings/Courses

- The CDC trainings/courses must be completed by:
  - Physician-in-Charge (PIC)
  - Vaccine Coordinator (VC)
  - Back-up Vaccine Coordinator (BVC)
- Only certificates with a 2021 date will be accepted
  - Vaccines for Children- 2021 (WB4418)
  - Keys to storage and Handling your Vaccine Supply-2018 (WD2886R)
- Instructions on how to complete the training can be found on the Online Registry or Bureau of Immunization Website
  - https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/accessing-the-CDCtrainings-modules-instructions.pdf



#### Accessing the CDC Trainings

- Access to the required trainings can be found on CDC's TCEO website: <a href="https://tceols.cdc.gov/">https://tceols.cdc.gov/</a>
- If you are new to CDC's Training and Continuing Education Online System, create an account by clicking here and follow the steps as indicated
- If you are a returning user, enter your username, password and click here to sign in
- If you are not able to log into the TCEO system, please select Contact TCEO.



Training and Continuing Education Online (TCEO)



gelysee@health.nyc.gov

Sign In

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CDC A-Z INDEX

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9 Simple Steps to Earn CE

Frequently Asked Questions

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New to TCEO?

Visit Create Account. Once your account has been created, you will be able to search for courses and complete requirements to receive CE.

Already have a TCEO account from the previous system?

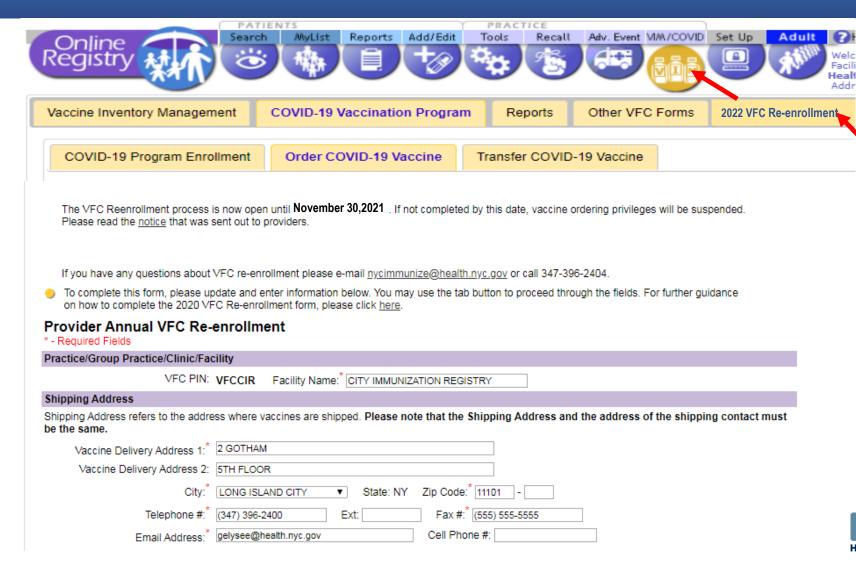
To move your account to the new system please sign in above using your existing TCEO username and password. Once signed in, follow the prompts to verify and update your account. After your account has been updated you will sign in using the email and password you provide during this update. Going forward you will use this email address and password to sign in.

Not sure how to get started?

Follow these 9 Simple Steps to earn continuing education for the courses you have taken or conferences you have attended!



### Accessing the 2022 Re-enrollment Form in CIR

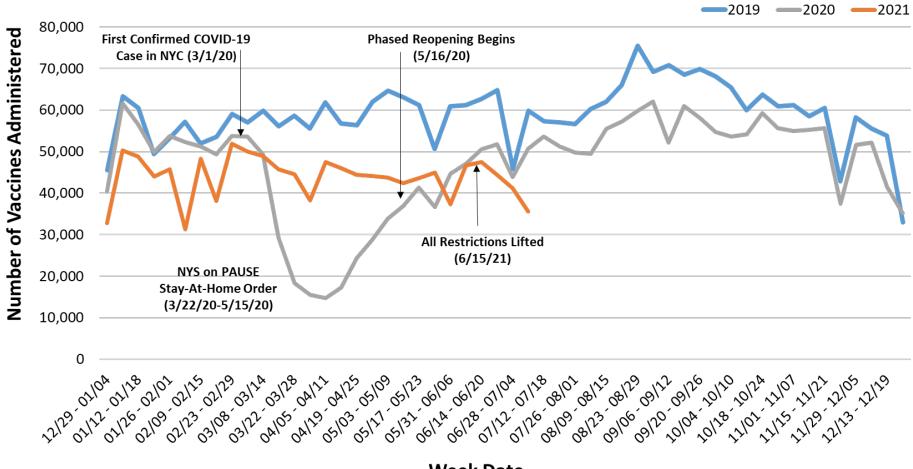




#### **Childhood Vaccination Rates**

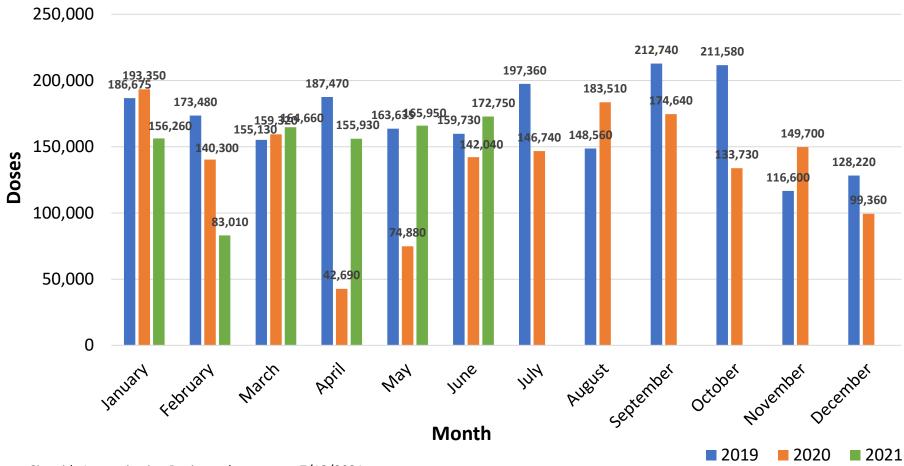


#### Routine Pediatric Vaccines Administered to Children Ages 0-18 Years in New York City, by Week, 2019-2021





#### VFC Vaccine Doses Ordered in New York City, by Month 2019-2021



Source: Citywide Immunization Registry; data run on 7/13/2021



<sup>\*</sup>Dose data as of 6/30/2021

<sup>†</sup>Doses exclude flu and COVID-19 vaccines

## Influenza Vaccine Coverage with ≥1 Dose Among Children Aged 6 Months to 18 Years, 2019-20 and 2020-21 Influenza Seasons\*

Age group	Coverage 2020-21	Coverage 2019-20	Percentage Point Difference	Percent Change
6-59 months	66.4%	76.7%	-10.3	-14%
5-8 years	54.6%	56.4%	-1.8	-3%
9-18 years	47.0%	44.2%	2.8	6%
All Children (6 months to 18 Years)	53.5%	55.0%	-1.5	-3%

Source: Citywide Immunization Registry; data run on 7/6/2021



<sup>\*</sup>Flu doses administered by 6/30 and entered into CIR by 7/4 for both seasons

# School Immunization Requirements



# Immunization Requirements for School/Childcare: 2021-22

VACCINES	CHILD CARE, HEAD START, NURSERY, 3K OR PRE- KINDERGARTEN	KINDERGARTEN through Grade 5		GRADES 6 through 12
Diphtheria and tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and pertussis vaccine (DTaP/DTP) <sup>2</sup>	4 doses	5 doses or 4 doses if the fourth dose was received at age 4 years or older or 3 doses if the child is age 7 years or older and the series was started at age 1 year or older		3 doses
Tetanus and diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine and pertussis vaccine booster (Tdap) <sup>3</sup>		Not Applicable 1 dose		1 dose
Polio vaccine (IPV/OPV)1,4	3 doses	4 doses or 3 doses if the third dose was received at age 4 years or older		
Measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR) <sup>1,5</sup>	1 dose	2 doses		
Hepatitis B (HepB) vaccine <sup>1,6</sup>	3 doses	3 doses or 2 doses of adult hepatitis B vaccine (I HB®) for children who received the doses at least 4 r between the ages of 11 through 15 years		no received the doses at least 4 months apart
Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine <sup>1,7</sup>	1 dose	2 doses		
Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY) <sup>8</sup>		Not Applicable	Grades 7, 8, 9,10 and 11: 1 dose	Grade 12: 2 doses or 1 dose if the first dose was received at age 16 years or older
Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (Hib) <sup>9</sup>	1 to 4 doses	Not Applicable		
Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)10	1 to 4 doses	Not Applicable		
Influenza <sup>11</sup>	1 dose	Not Applicable		



# Updates to the Immunization Requirements School/Childcare: 2021-22

- For grades 7 and 8, dose 1 of MenACWY must be at >10 years of age
- For grade 6 and 7, only doses of Tdap given at >10 years of age satisfy the requirement
  - oFor grades 8-12, Tdap doses given at age ≥7 years will continue to satisfy the vaccination requirement



# Exemptions to Required Immunizations: School/Childcare

- Only allowable exemption is a valid medical contraindication
- A DOH medical exemption request form must be completed and signed by NYS-licensed physician\*
- By signing, the physician is confirming that they believe the child has a valid medical contraindication
- DOH physicians review all medical exemption requests
- Submissions for invalid reasons are documented
- Exemptions approved by DOH are granted for maximum of one year



### These are NOT valid contraindications to ANY routine vaccine

- Parental concern without medical documentation
- Egg allergy, even if anaphylactic to MMR, influenza, or any other vaccine
- Autism and/or developmental delay in the child or family member
- Mild, acute illness (e.g. low-grade fever, cold, upper respiratory illness, diarrhea, otitis media)
- Contact with immunosuppressed persons by a healthy individual
- Pregnancy in the household or contact with a pregnant woman
- Non-severe, life-threatening allergic reaction to vaccination or history of allergies in a relative
- Prior influenza A and/or B infection (influenza vaccine still required)
- Controlled seizures (with or without medication) or a history of seizures in a relative



#### Q&A

#### Thank you!

For COVID-19 related questions email <a href="mailto:Covidvax@health.nyc.gov">Covidvax@health.nyc.gov</a>
For VFC related questions email <a href="mailto:nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov">nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov</a>
Phone: 347-396-2404

