



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Human Services

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Date: February 6, 2009  
To: Public VFC Providers  
From: Mimi Luther, Provider Services Manager  
Re: State-Supplied Flu Vaccine

Please use the enclosed form to request state-supplied influenza vaccine for the 2009-10 influenza season. We have combined what used to be called "Flu Preparedness" with Flu Pool this year, hoping to streamline efforts for your agency and ours. **Requests are due by February 27, 2009.**



If a non-health department agency (public or private) would like to place their own order for Flu Pool influenza vaccine, we will seek the approval of the local health department (LHD) once the order is received and logged in our system. Our goal here is to assure that local public health authorities are appropriately aware and involved in community activities. If LHDs wish to engage partners not already enrolled in our program, please share the order form, instructions and requirements with them. LHDs can also incorporate vaccine supplies for local partners on their own order form.

### Eligible Groups for VFC and 317 flu vaccine:

All children ages 6 months through 18 years, per VFC and 317 financial eligibility guidelines (e.g. no insurance, unaffordable copay, underinsured, Medicaid, etc).

### Eligible Groups for Flu Pool Vaccine:

- Emergency Preparedness Activities: Flu Pool vaccine can be used in the context of an approved emergency preparedness exercise. We will accept your prebook request for doses to be used in an exercise, but we will also need a copy of your approved HSEEP exercise scope (signed by your state PHEP Liaison) no later than June 1, 2009. In addition, an after action summary report and improvement plan is required by April 1, 2010.
- Increase Access to Care: Flu Pool vaccine can be used in activities to reach broader numbers, targeting those who have no insurance or who do not otherwise have access to flu vaccine. Flu Pool vaccine is intended to augment your community's activities; it is not to be used to supplant activities that serve well-insured individuals.
- In School Clinics: Flu Pool can again be used this season to test readiness or planning needs for provision of vaccines in school settings. This will be the final year of providing Flu Pool vaccine for use in school settings.

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### Ideas for Flu Pool Activities:

- Immunize your clinic/agency staff members and volunteers who are without health plan coverage for influenza vaccine.
- Immunize healthcare workers and emergency responders, including volunteers that are without health plan coverage for influenza vaccine.
- Hold community-wide influenza clinics throughout the season, targeting the underserved.
- Immunize school populations: children, teachers, staff and their families. Note, this is the last year we will be providing flu vaccine for in-school clinics regardless of health insurance coverage. Next season, you will only be able to use our vaccine for serving the uninsured/underinsured during in-school clinics.
- Immunize long-term care patients and staff without health insurance that covers influenza vaccine.
- Provide vaccine in high-risk and low-access settings, such as at homeless shelters or jails.
- Share the vaccine with other agencies that can target underserved populations.
- Set up a point of dispensing (POD) to exercise scenarios or components outlined in PE12 "Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program (PHEP)" or PE2 "Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Program. Examples include conducting full-scale, multi-agency exercising of target capabilities such as on-site incident management, medical supplies management and distribution, and mass prophylaxis.

### **Important Reminders and Requirements for all State-supplied Influenza vaccine** **New requirements are in place this season. Failure to meet any requirements below may result in exclusion from participation next season.**

- Data must be submitted to the Immunization Registry within 14 days of administration. Minimum data must be sent, including vaccine eligibility codes. All Flu Pool doses can be coded "O" (other) for eligibility. For information about alternate data submission opportunities, please contact our office.
- Ordering sites (not final distribution sites) will be charged for doses wasted due to mishandling and for doses that go unused.
- LHDs can share Flu Pool doses with partner agencies (e.g. hospitals, delegate agencies, clinics, schools, EMS). LHDs will be responsible to assure requirements are met.
- No one can be charged for the cost of the vaccine; doing so is a violation of Federal Law.
- All participants may be asked for administration fee (not to exceed \$15.19 per dose), but cannot be denied access if unable to pay the fee. No "donations" may be requested outside of explicit vaccine administration fees.
- All people who participate in an approved preparedness exercise, including staff, are eligible for a vaccination.
- Please order only as much vaccine as you think you'll be able to use. This season, thousands of doses have been wasted. If orders exceed what we can provide, we will notify you by July 1.
- Please note, some vaccine may be available by August or September, but we expect to receive the majority of vaccine in November. Please plan your influenza activities accordingly.