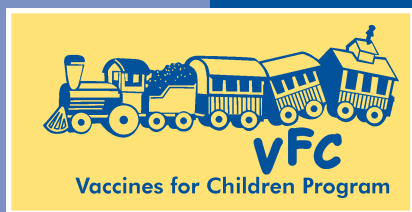


**VACCINES FOR
CHILDREN PROGRAM**
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

CDC National Immunization Information Hotline

ENGLISH: **800-232-2522**

ESPAÑOL: **800-232-0233**



Vaccines at No Cost
for Eligible Children



Immunization

What is the Vaccines for Children Program?

The Vaccine for Children (VFC) program is a federal program that provides eligible children all recommended vaccines at no cost. You may, however, be charged a small processing fee. The federal government pays for the vaccines, and doctors and clinics agree to give the vaccines to children who qualify.

If your doctor is a VFC participating provider

you can get your child's shots in the doctor's office. However, if your doctor is not a "VFC participating provider," you can take your child to your local health department or to your community or rural health center clinic for these free or low cost vaccines.

Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Immunization Program
1600 Clifton Road • Atlanta, GA 30333

Is my child eligible?

Children from birth through 18 years of age can receive vaccines through the VFC program if they are at least one of the following:

- eligible for Medicaid
- without health insurance
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- under-insured*

* If you have health insurance that doesn't cover vaccines, your child is eligible. However, you will have to go to a federally qualified health center or a rural health clinic for your VFC vaccinations. Call your local or state health department immunization program for a center nearest you.

How much will I have to pay?

You won't pay anything for the vaccine itself, but you may be asked to pay a small processing fee. However, you can still get the vaccine, even if you can not pay this fee. The savings to you can be well over \$400!

For more information on the VFC program, please call your local health department, your state immunization program or the National Immunization Hotline. Or visit the VFC website.

Tell me more.

National Immunization Hotline: 800-232-2522 Hearing Impaired: 800-232-7889

WEBSITE: www.cdc.gov/nip/vfc

Where can I get VFC vaccines for my child?

Most baby and family doctors take part in the VFC program. Ask your doctor. Or call your local or state health department immunization program to find out if your doctor is a "VFC participating provider." They can also give you a list of "VFC participating providers" in your area.

For more information on the VFC program, please call your doctor, your local health department, or your state immunization program.

You can also visit the national VFC Program website or call the National Immunization Hotline. The site and numbers are listed at the top.

Which diseases can the VFC vaccines prevent?

- Diphtheria
- *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib)
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Measles
- Mumps
- Pertussis (whooping cough)
- Pneumococcal disease
- Polio
- Rubella (German measles)
- Tetanus (lockjaw)
- Varicella (chickenpox)

Some people think these diseases no longer exist

They do exist. But we seldom see most of them in the U.S. because of successful vaccination programs, such as the VFC program. The only way to keep from seeing these diseases often, and to protect our children from them, is to continue to vaccinate against them.