

Erica Pan, MD, MPH
Director and State Public Health Officer

Gavin Newsom
Governor

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TO: California Vaccines for Adults (VFA) Providers

FROM: Robert Schechter, M.D., Chief 
Center for Infectious Diseases
Division of Communicable Disease Control, Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: **CA VFA Program 2025 – 2026 COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering**

HIGHLIGHTS



- ✓ Limited COVID-19 vaccine is now available for ordering through the VFA Program for eligible uninsured and underinsured adults 19+ years
- ✓ VFA providers can order COVID-19 vaccines via the routine order form on myCAvax. A VFA ordering window will be open for a 2-week period to allow supplemental orders for COVID-19 vaccines only.

Dear VFA Provider:

With the end of special federal funding for California's Bridge Access Program (BAP), CDPH is instead offering about 4,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine through the VFA program for uninsured and underinsured adults served at VFA clinics. Participation, eligibility, and all other requirements are unchanged. **Please note that redistribution of 317-funded vaccines to outside partners is not allowed.** BAP providers who are not VFA providers no longer have access to 317-funded COVID vaccines.

Once VFA order requests have reached capacity at 4,000 doses, ordering for COVID-19 vaccines via the VFA Program will be turned off in myCAvax.

COVID-19 VACCINE PRODUCTS

The following COVID-19 vaccines are currently available for ordering through the VFA Program. (Moderna mNEXSPIKE is not offered.)

Vaccine Group	Manufacturer	Vaccine Name and Packaging	NDC
COVID 12+ years	Moderna	Spikevax	80777-0112-96
COVID 12+ years	Sanofi/Novavax	Nuvaxovid	80631-0207-10
COVID 12+ years	Pfizer	Comirnaty	00069-2528-10

For product details, see FDA package inserts for [Spikevax](#) (Moderna), [Cominarty](#) (Pfizer), and [Nuvaxovid](#) (Sanofi/Novavax).

IMPORTANT: 2024 – 2025 COVID-19 Vaccines are no longer authorized and should not be administered. Return expired doses distributed from the Bridge Access Program (BAP) to McKesson and report in myCAvax before the official close out in the myCAvax system in November. Visit [Reporting and Return of Nonviable Vaccines webpage](#) for additional information.

ADMINISTRATION

Adult dosages – Administer COVID-19 vaccine as an intramuscular injection

Moderna 50 micrograms/dose

Sanofi/Novavax Nuvaxovid 5 micrograms/dose

Pfizer 30 micrograms/dose

For details, please refer to the [CDPH COVID-19 Vaccine Product Guide](#).

Any VFA-eligible adult 19 years and older may receive a dose of VFA COVID-19 vaccine, in accordance with [CDPH recommendations](#).

Adults 65 years and older are recommended to receive two doses of 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine 6 months apart (2-month minimum interval). Persons who are moderately or severely immunocompromised should receive additional doses. For details, please refer to the [COVID-19 Vaccine Timing Guide](#).

[Coadministration of COVID-19 vaccine with other routine vaccines](#) such as influenza vaccine is recommended. [People with recent SARS-CoV-2 infection](#) may consider delaying a COVID-19 dose by 3 months from symptom onset or positive test (if infection was asymptomatic).

STORAGE AND HANDLING – Note changes from prior formulations

The beyond use date of each product depends on how it is stored. Store and handle COVID-19 vaccines according to [CDC's Storage Handling Toolkit](#) to protect vaccines.

Moderna – SPIKEVAX®

- Freezer - Can be stored in the freezer between -50°C to -15°C (-58°F to 5°F) until the expiration date printed on the carton.
- Refrigerator - Can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 60 days or up to the expiration date printed on the carton, whichever comes first.
- May be stored at room temperature, between 8°C to 25°C (46°F to 77°F) for up to 12 hours.

Sanofi/Novavax – Nuvaxovid™

- Single-dose prefilled syringes must be stored in the refrigerator at 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F) and may be used until expiry. Note that providers should anticipate product expiry to be 12/31/2025. Sanofi is working with FDA on shelf-life extension for this season. As the season progresses, dating may be shorter.
- DO NOT FREEZE.
- Keep protected from light.
- Discard after single use.

Pfizer – COMIRNATY™

- If shipped in thermal containers with dry ice, may be stored in ultra-low temperature (ULT) freezer until expiration date printed on cartons and vials
- Single-dose vials: May be stored in the refrigerator for up to 10 weeks. The 10-week beyond used date should be written on the carton when placed in refrigerator. DO NOT refreeze once thawed.
- Glass prefilled syringes must be refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C (35°F to 46°F) and may be used until expiration date printed on syringe.
- Glass Prefilled Syringes: DO NOT FREEZE. Discard if frozen.
- Total time at room temperature must not exceed 12 hours for all products.
- Keep protected from exposure to room light and avoid exposure to direct sunlight and ultraviolet light.

ELIGIBILITY

COVID-19 vaccines made available through the VFA program may be given only to VFA- eligible patients 19 years of age or older who are uninsured or underinsured. 317-funded COVID-19 vaccine doses must be identified with the appropriate 317 eligibility funding category when entering administration information into CAIR.

Patients who are fully insured must be given privately purchased vaccines.

VFA VACCINE ORDERING: Vaccines must be administered at the approved enrolled VFA location. Redistribution of doses is not allowed.

Order Form

VFA providers will order COVID-19 vaccine using the same order process as for all other routine vaccines on the VFA order form of your myCAvax account. A special VFA ordering window will open to allow supplemental orders for COVID-19 vaccines only. Other VFA routine vaccines will be unavailable to order during this supplemental ordering period. For your first order, your practice will not be expected to list prior formulations of COVID-19 vaccine as part of your VFA on-hand inventory since 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines have been deauthorized; any remaining doses ordered from the California Bridge Access Program (BAP) should be returned or wasted.

Order Frequency

Order enough vaccine that can be used within your quarterly order frequency. Initial orders will be capped at 20 doses. Vaccine requests may be reduced and/or approved based on available supply.

As you decide on how many doses to order, keep in mind storage limits of each vaccine depending on its method of storage, as some vaccines may have different beyond use dates if stored in an ultra-low temperature freezer, in a freezer, or in a refrigerator. Refer to the [COVID-19 Vaccine Product Guide](#) for more information.

Ordering Caps and Recommended Order Size

The total COVID-19 supply available for VFA providers for the 2025-2026 season will be about 4,000 doses. The VFA supplemental ordering window will be open until **November 10, 2025** or until the COVID-19 VFA allocations have been depleted. To ensure equitable ordering across California, the VFA program will apply a 20-dose cap for providers on their first order. Subsequent orders for all VFA providers will be based on available supply.

On the myCAvax VFA vaccine order form, the system will calculate your “recommended order size.” The purpose of the “recommended order size” is to guide you on the number of doses you should be ordering based on your inventory and doses administered.

The VFA Program understands that your actual COVID-19 vaccine need may differ from what is recommended (e.g., planned COVID vaccine clinics, influx of patients, etc.). If you need more doses beyond what is in your “recommended order size,” please enter a justification.

NOTE: Since there would be no inventory and usage information for the updated 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccines on your first vaccine order, your recommended order size will default to zero. You will be prompted to provide a justification for requesting doses beyond what is initially recommended. Select "other" and write "first order for this product/NDC."

Enrolled VFA providers should only place an order for COVID-19 vaccines to be administered at their clinic location.

COVID-19 Vaccine Brand Preference

The California VFA Program offers a choice of vaccine brands and presentations, and selection is at the discretion of providers. To minimize confusion on vaccine administration, storage, and handling, it is recommended that VFA providers select one brand/manufacturer for their COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 Vaccine Shipments

Moderna Spikevax and Sanofi* Nuvaxovid vaccines are shipped by McKesson. COVID-19 vaccine orders will follow the same shipping timelines for routine vaccines (shipping within about 3 days of order receipt at McKesson). Pfizer Cominarty vaccines will ship directly from Pfizer (Direct Ship Vaccines), within 15 days of order receipt by CDC.

Shipping conditions will vary by each product:

- Moderna Spikevax vaccines ship frozen between -50°C and -15°C (-58°F and 5°F). Initial shipments will have an expiry of 3-6 months. As the season progresses, dating may be shorter.
- Sanofi* Nuvaxovid vaccine ships like other routine refrigerated vaccines at temperatures between 2° to 8°C (36° to 46°F). Providers should expect an expiry of 12/31/2025.
- Pfizer Cominarty vaccines 12+ will ship from the manufacturer refrigerated with at least 12 weeks of shelf life.

NOTE: Please ensure receiving staff have been properly trained on shipment inspection, dry ice safety, and storage in the corresponding units.

Reporting Wasted, Spoiled, Expired Vaccine

VFA providers are required to account for all COVID-19 vaccine doses ordered on their [myCAvax](#) account, including reporting on-hand inventory and doses administered. Wasted, spoiled, and expired COVID-19 doses must be reported to the VFA Program, and doses reported as expired or spoiled are returned to McKesson Speciality.

Vaccine Storage Considerations

When ordering, ensure that you have enough vaccine storage space to accommodate your routine VFA vaccines, VFC vaccines, SGF vaccines, private-purchase vaccines, and COVID vaccines. Monitor vaccine storage units regularly and purchase additional storage units if capacity cannot accommodate the inventory in a manner consistent with VFA Program requirements (*Provider Agreement Addendum 13G*).

Although not required to purchase, if your practice has an ultra-low temperature (ULT) freezer for storing Pfizer vaccines, please add this storage unit to your myCAVax VFA Program Location account.

BILLING FOR VFA VACCINE

For uninsured and underinsured eligible adults: Never bill for the cost of the vaccine and administration fee.

REPORTING VACCINE ADMINISTRATION TO CAIR

All active participants of California's VFA Program are required to enter all vaccine doses administered into CAIR or RIDE, in accordance with [AB 1797](#), and as indicated in the 2025 VFA Provider Participation Agreement Addendum. Please make sure all doses administered are reported into a California immunization registry ([CAIR](#) or [Healthy Futures/RIDE](#)) AND the appropriate 317 Eligibility category is recorded.

Please ensure CAIR Accepted Values for 317 Eligibility Funding Status are reported with your clinic's data exchange information when documenting vaccine administration in the clinic's electronic medical record and then exchanging information with CAIR or Healthy Futures. NOTE: Administration reported with each order in myCAVax may be compared against doses reported as administered in CAIR prior to re-order approval.

Refer patients to the [California Digital Vaccine Record \(DVR\) portal](#) to request copies of their vaccination record. Information is available in multiple languages.

RESOURCES

Program Agreements

- [VFA Provider Agreement](#)
- [VFA Provider Agreement Addendum](#)

Eligibility Job Aids

- [VFA Eligibility Screening and Documentation Requirements](#)
- [VFA Eligibility Screening Record for Adults](#)
- [VFA Eligibility Based on Insurance Status](#)

Clinical Job Aids

- [CDPH Public Health for All Webpage](#)
- [EZIZ COVID-19 Vaccine Resources](#)