

Vaccines for Children Program (VFC)

Information for Parents from CDC

1 How can I get help paying for my child's vaccines?

Since 1994, parents have been protecting their children through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. This program provides free vaccines to children whose parents need help paying for them

Get help
paying
for your
children's
vaccine!

2 Is my child eligible for the VFC Program?

Your child is eligible if it is before his or her 19th birthday, and if he or she is one of the following:

- Medicaid-eligible
- Uninsured
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Underinsured (Underinsured children are only eligible for VFC Vaccines through Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics.)



3 What do you mean by "underinsured?"

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

- It doesn't cover any vaccines.
- It doesn't cover certain vaccines.
- It covers vaccines, but it has a fixed dollar limit or cap for vaccines. Once that fixed dollar amount has been reached, your child is eligible.



4 Where can I go to get my child vaccinated?

Ask your doctor if he or she is a VFC Program provider. There are more than 40,000 doctors enrolled in the VFC Program nationwide.

5 How much will I have to pay?

All eligible vaccines are free through the VFC Program. Even though you're saving a great deal of money by getting free vaccines, there can be other costs to the VFC visit:

- Doctors can charge a fee to give each shot. However, VFC vaccines cannot be denied to an eligible child if the family cannot afford the fee.
- There can be a fee for the office visit.
- There can be fees for non-vaccine services, like an eye exam or a blood test.



For more information about the VFC Program, you can visit CDC's VFC webpage at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/index.html or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636) and ask for information about the VFC Program.