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**TO:** Illinois Vaccine for Children Providers  
**FROM:** Linda Kasebier, MPH, MSHS, VFC Administrator  
**CC:** VFC Compliance Staff  
**DATE:** July 1, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** Vaccines for Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP)

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The Illinois Department of Public Health is pleased to announce the availability of vaccines for children with Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) coverage through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program starting July 1, 2019. CHIP coverage includes Title XXI [21] or State Funded coverage.

Please see the attached "Illinois VFC Guidance for CHIP Ordering" for details and instructions on how to proceed, including an initial request to update your provider profile. Once your profile update is completed, you may proceed to place your order per the guidance. As normal process, you may track your order status in I-CARE, which will also send alerts when your order status changes. Please know that orders will be processed and transmitted to CDC when CHIP vaccines are available, tentatively scheduled for July 15, 2019.

If a VFC clinic will need a VFC-only vaccine order prior to July 15, 2019, the clinic should enter the order in I-CARE per normal procedures and email [DPH.Vaccines@illinois.gov](mailto:DPH.Vaccines@illinois.gov) to inform the VFC program of the need for a VFC only vaccine order so the order may be reviewed and processed.

If VFC providers have an inventory of privately purchased vaccines for use with CHIP children, the provider may continue to use their inventory and bill the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) until August 1, 2019. HFS will continue to assess their ability to reimburse providers for private vaccines use for CHIP covered patients after August 1, 2019.

To assist with this transition, IDPH, Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and HFS will be hosting two webinars:

- July 11, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. to review the VFC process and procedures. You may register at this [link](#).
- July 18, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. to review the Medicaid and CHIP billing process. You may register at this [link](#).

The webinars will also be recorded and shared following should you not be able to attend both webinars.

If you have any questions regarding the Vaccines for Children program, please contact the Illinois VFC program at [DPH.Vaccines@illinois.gov](mailto:DPH.Vaccines@illinois.gov) or 217-785-1455.

If you have any questions regarding Medicaid or CHIP billing, please contact the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, Bureau of Professional and Ancillary Services at [1-877-782-5565](tel:1-877-782-5565).