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Health and Human
Services

**Texas Department of State
Health Services**

TVFC and ASN

Program Policy Updates

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Agenda

- 2025 manual revisions
- Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) program recruitment
- TVFC and Adult Safety Net (ASN) program reminders



2025 Manual Revisions



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2025 Manual Revisions

General manual revisions:

- Updated TVFC and ASN wording to specify which policies applied to each program throughout manual sections
- Corrected grammatical errors



2025 Manual Revisions:

Changes to Enrollment Form

Updated the Changes to Enrollment form and ImmTrac2 renewal criteria.

- Providers should fill out a “Changes to Enrollment Form,” stock no. 11-15224, when the following changes occur:
 - Facility shipping address (Complete Sections A and B)
 - Facility shipping hours (Complete Sections A and C)
 - Signing clinician (Complete Sections A and D)
 - Patient population data (Complete Sections A and F)
 - Primary or backup vaccine coordinator (Complete Sections A and E)
- Providers must update facility name, facility address, and prescribing authorities through an ImmTrac2 renewal.



2025 Manual Revisions:

Vaccine Coordinator Emails

Primary vaccine coordinator (PVC) and backup vaccine coordinator (BVC) will have unique email addresses.

- Each site must designate a unique PVC and BVC.
- Both coordinators must provide individual, unique email addresses to ensure user security and reliable contact.



2025 Manual Revisions:

TVFC Patient Eligibility and Screening

Updated Non-U.S. citizen criteria for TVFC patient eligibility.

- Non-U.S. citizen children are VFC eligible if they meet VFC eligibility criteria:
 - 18 years old or younger
 - American Indian or Alaska Native
 - Medicaid eligible
 - Uninsured or underinsured

While citizenship is not a requirement for VFC eligibility, VFC vaccines are not intended for children who are visiting, temporarily traveling, or a tourist in the U.S.



2025 Manual Revisions:

Household Combination Units

Update for providers using both compartments of a household combination unit.

- Any currently enrolled provider using both compartments of a household combination unit that maintains the required temperature ranges may continue using the unit.
- If temperature excursions occur that the provider cannot attribute to another cause (e.g., power outage), the provider must discontinue the use of one of the compartments.
- Providers enrolled after July 1, 2024, will not be allowed to use the freezer compartment of a household combination unit.



2025 Manual Revisions:

Deputized DSHS Clinics

Deputized DSHS public health region (PHR) and local health department (LHD) clinics must submit monthly reports through the online survey created by the DSHS Immunization program.

- PHR and LHD clinics must also report the underinsured patient population and doses administered data by the 15th of every month.
- Previously, PHR and LHD clinics could submit their monthly reports through the Texas Wide Integrated Client Encounter System (TWICES) application.
- As of December 31, 2024, TWICES will not accept new data.
- The survey link will be available in January 2025.



2025 Manual Revisions: Maximum Stock Levels Calculations

Updated calculation for maximum stock levels (MSL).

- MSLs will now be for 12-month periods to better reflect trends and seasonal changes.
- Doses admin-based MSLs (TVFC/ASN) will retain a 2.5 multiplier (75-day supply).
- For TVFC providers, back-to-school (BTS) MSLs will have a distinct multiplier of 2.85 during the back-to-school months (June–September).



2025 Manual Revisions:

ASN Program

Updated 19-year-old eligibility to complete a TVFC series under the ASN program.

- The ASN program will no longer offer ASN eligibility to insured patients who are 19 years of age and who initially started certain vaccine series under the TVFC program.
- Previously, patients 19 years of age who initiated but did not complete a vaccine series under the TVFC program were able to complete the series using ASN program vaccines (regardless of health insurance status) prior to the patient turning 20 years old.
- Uninsured patients 19 years of age who did not complete the vaccine series are still ASN eligible and should contact their local ASN program provider to discuss vaccine options with the ASN program.
- DSHS advises insured or underinsured patients 19 years of age who did not complete the vaccine series to contact their insurance provider to discuss their vaccine options.



2025 Manual Revisions:

ASN Program Continued

Removed language about COVID-19 vaccine administration fees.

- Providers may charge an administration fee for the COVID-19 vaccine.



TVFC Recruitment



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TVFC Recruitment:

Objective

Expand the TVFC program provider network and increase access to immunizations across Texas.



DSHS Immunizations will achieve this goal through partnership with and training of TVFC Responsible Entities (REs), including PHRs and LHDs, to actively recruit TVFC providers. Additionally, DSHS Immunizations will onboard contractors to assist in TVFC recruitment throughout DSHS PHRs.



TVFC Recruitment:

Materials

DSHS Immunizations program has generated the TVFC program recruitment list for REs and contractor staff to target and actively recruit unenrolled providers across Texas.

We generated this data using:

- ImmTrac2 data
- Medicaid provider lists
- Federally qualified health center lists
- Rural health center lists



TVFC Recruitment:

Monitoring

DSHS will monitor recruitment effectiveness by maintaining the TVFC Recruitment tracker and Recruitment Oversight tracker to monitor RE progress on:

- How many providers REs are contacting
- The outcome of the contacts
- The number of follow-ups
- What resources REs are using
- How often REs are making contact attempts



TVFC Recruitment

- REs will conduct outreach via phone call, email, and virtual or in-person meetings to potential TVFC providers on the recruitment list.
- When speaking with clinic staff, the RE will ask to speak with the prescribing authority to discuss the benefits TVFC can provide to their practice.
- The RE will explain the TVFC enrollment process and expectations for TVFC providers.



TVFC Recruitment

Continued

DSHS Immunizations program will provide REs with the following resources to aid in recruitment efforts:

- TVFC Provider Recruitment packet
- TVFC Program Recruitment tracker
- Recruitment verbal script
- Email templates

The RE recruitment script and email templates will provide a framework for communicating with providers through different scenarios.



Program Reminders



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Suspensions

- A live suspension report for TVFC or ASN providers is available on the DSHS Regions SharePoint.
 - The report lists suspended TVFC or ASN program providers by their DSHS PHR or reason for suspension.
- Examples include:
 - Suspension Status
 - Vaccine Allocation and Ordering System (VAOS) Hold Status
 - Data Logger Suspension
 - Provider Education Assessment and Reporting (PEAR) Suspension
 - RE Request Suspension



ACIP Schedules

- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) met from October 23 to 24, 2024. ACIP voted to approve the following:
 - Updated the dosing schedule for BEXSERO® (MenB-4C, GSK). Effective immediately for TVFC.



Vaccine Depots

- Texas does not allow vaccine depots.
- Vaccine depots are sites that receive, store, and distribute VFC vaccines but do not administer vaccines to eligible children.



Communications

REs

- REs receive communications from DSHS through VacCallCenter@dshs.texas.gov.
- The distribution lists come from the [RE Contact List](#) located on the [DSHS Regions SharePoint](#).
 - REs must ensure the list is up to date with staff changes.



Communications

TVFC/ASN Providers

- Program providers receive communications from DSHS through Gov Delivery.
- The provider's distribution list includes the primary vaccine coordinator, backup vaccine coordinator, and signing clinician.
 - Providers must ensure the list contains correct email addresses.
 - Providers should ensure they do not have any email restrictions.



Pediatric Immunization Practices

Standards

- The U.S. Public Health Service approved, and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) endorsed, 18 pediatric immunization standards.
- These standards represent the most desirable practices for all health care providers and immunization programs.



Pediatric Immunization Practices

Purpose of Standards

- To increase childhood and adolescent vaccination coverage through standards published by the National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC)
- To provide strategies to eliminate barriers to vaccinations such as:
 - Removing unnecessary prerequisites to receive vaccines
 - Addressing missed opportunities to vaccinate
 - Improving procedures to assess vaccination needs
 - Enhancing knowledge about vaccines among providers
 - Improving management and reporting of adverse events



Q&A

- Please ask any questions.



Thank you!

TVFC and ASN Program Policy Updates

VacCallCenter@dshs.texas.gov