

WyWIP Program

The Wyoming Vaccinates Important People (WyVIP) program provides vaccines for children through many healthcare providers using state and federal funding.

For More Information

Please call the Wyoming Department of Health's Immunization Section at 307-777-7952.

5/2011

Local Public Health Offices

AFTON	(307) 885-9598
BIG PINEY	(307) 276-3575
BUFFALO	(307) 684-2564
CASPER	(307) 235-9340
CHEYENNE	(307) 633-4000
CHEYENNE	(307) 777-7275
CODY	(307) 527-8570
DOUGLAS	(307) 358-2536
EVANSTON	(307) 789-9203
GILLETTE	(307) 682-7275
GLENROCK	(307) 436-3474
GREEN RIVER	(307) 872-6320
GREYBULL	(307) 765-2371
JACKSON	(307) 733-6401
KAYCEE	(307) 738-2404
KEMMERER	(307) 877-3780
LANDER	(307) 332-1073
LARAMIE	(307) 721-2561
LOVELL	(307) 548-6591
LUSK	(307) 334-2609
LYMAN	(307) 787-3800
NEWCASTLE	(307) 746-3378
PINEDALE	(307) 367-2157
POWELL	(307) 754-8870
RAWLINS	(307) 328-2607
RIVERTON	(307) 856-6979
ROCK SPRINGS	(307) 922-5390
SARATOGA	(307) 326-5371
SHERIDAN	(307) 672-5169
SUNDANCE	(307) 283-1142
THERMOPOLIS	(307) 864-3311
TORRINGTON	(307) 532-4069
WHEATLAND	(307) 322-2540
WORLAND	(307) 347-3278

Vaccines for Wyoming's Children:

Questions and Answers



Wyoming
Department
of Health

Commit to your health.

Information About Vaccine Program Changes

What are “required” vaccines?

Under Wyoming’s rules, proof of certain immunizations is needed for school. Required for kindergarten: DTaP, polio, MMR, hepatitis B, Hib, and varicella vaccines. Required for 7th grade: Series completion of the other vaccines and Tdap.

I’ve heard things are changing. Will I have to pay for the vaccines the state requires?

While a small administrative fee (less than \$15) is sometimes charged, all “required” vaccines will still be paid for by the WyVIP program.

So what is changing?

The WyVIP program will no longer use state funding to buy hepatitis A, human papillomavirus (HPV), influenza and meningococcal conjugate vaccines. These are each recommended but not required. For some children, federal money can be used to buy these vaccines.

Which children qualify for federal funding?

Money from the federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) program pays for all required and recommended vaccines for children eligible for Medicaid, uninsured children, and American Indian or Alaska Native children.

I don’t have insurance. How will I pay?

Federal dollars are used to buy vaccines for children who are uninsured.

What if my insurance doesn’t cover vaccines?

Children are “underinsured” if their policy doesn’t cover vaccines or only some vaccines, or if a child has spent more on vaccines than the policy allows. Federal vaccine money may be used for these children at certain health clinics. Your local public health office can help find these clinics. You can call 866-571-0944 for help finding contact information for local offices. Patients who have not yet met policy deductibles are not “underinsured.” Kid Care CHIP coverage is considered insurance.

I have insurance. Can I still get vaccines at my local public health nursing office?

Public health offices will offer all required and recommended vaccines to children eligible for the federal vaccine program, as well as all required vaccines to children with insurance. Some local public health offices may not offer the four vaccines the state is no longer buying to children with insurance. One reason: many offices are not able to bill private insurance companies. If you plan to have your child immunized at a local public

health office, we suggest asking about vaccine availability and billing ahead of time.

What happens if my child doesn’t qualify for federal help?

We strongly encourage parents to stay on track with all required and recommended vaccines for their children. Many insurance companies will cover the vaccines the state no longer pays for. They may cover the immunizations up front or may pay you back later. To avoid billing surprises, it’s a good idea to research the vaccine coverage your insurance provides ahead of time.

Why can’t the state keep paying for all vaccines?

More babies are being born, which means more kids to immunize. The costs of certain vaccines have gone up as they’ve been improved. New vaccines such as the one to help prevent chicken pox have been added to our program to meet expert recommendations. All of these things have put tremendous pressure on the program’s budget.

Is this change permanent?

The Wyoming Department of Health recognizes the value of investing in immunizations. We hope to return to full vaccine coverage should future budgets allow.