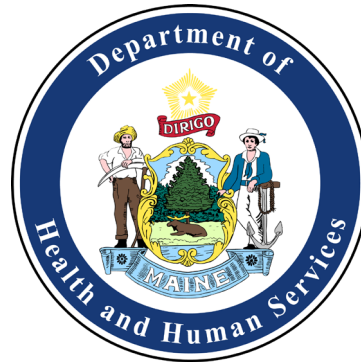


Expansion of Maine's Universal Immunization Program to Include Adults: What Providers Need to Know

Caitlin Anton & Kristen Coaty

June 2026



Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention

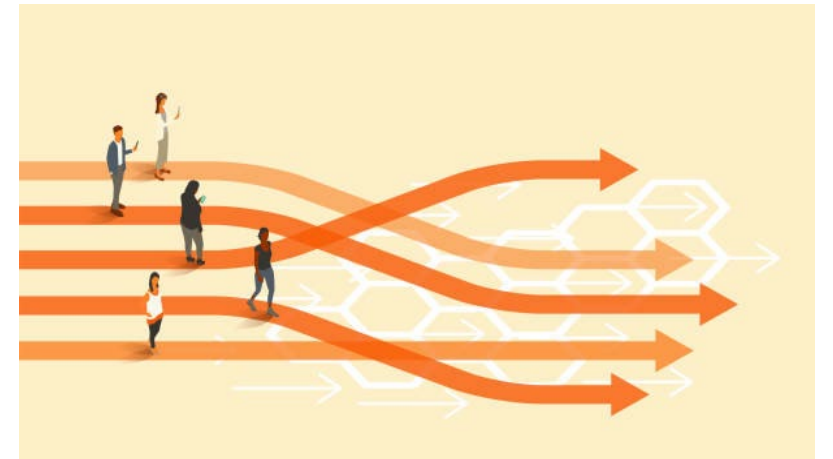
You're in the right place, if you're a...

- Site not currently enrolled in the childhood universal or 317 programs
- Practice interested in expanding adult vaccination
- Provider looking to reduce vaccine costs or simplify ordering



What is changing?

- No changes to the childhood program
- Expanded to include adults (19-64)
 - No upfront costs for healthcare providers and patients
 - Simplified vaccine ordering and inventory management
 - Improved access to vaccines for adult patients
- All approved vaccines are available at no cost *
 - No cost to healthcare providers for vaccine supply
 - No cost to patients for the vaccine
- Providers may bill an administration fee
 - Patients cannot be denied vaccination if unable to pay



*For a list of approved vaccines, visit the [Maine Vaccine Board](#)

What Does This Mean for Our Providers?

- No upfront costs for healthcare providers and patients
- Simplified vaccine ordering and inventory management
- Improved access to vaccines for adult patients
- Increased adult vaccination rates and community protection
- Enhanced support and resources
- More support and resources for providers
- Participation is voluntary
 - MaineCare will require participation for reimbursement
 - Additional information will be forthcoming from MaineCare



Who is Eligible for State Supplied Vaccine?

- All individuals ages 0-64, are eligible including:
 - Uninsured
 - Underinsured
 - Privately insured
 - Enrolled in MaineCare



What about 65+?

Eligibility

- 65+ are **NOT** eligible for the expanded Universal Immunization Program

Coverage

- Must be vaccinated using privately purchased vaccine

What this means for providers

- Maintain private stock for patients 65+



Eligibility Before July 1, 2026

- Children (0-18) → Covered through existing program
- Adults (19+) → Limited access to state-supplied vaccine
- Most adults rely on:
 - Private insurance
 - Or limited 317 supply (uninsured or underinsured)



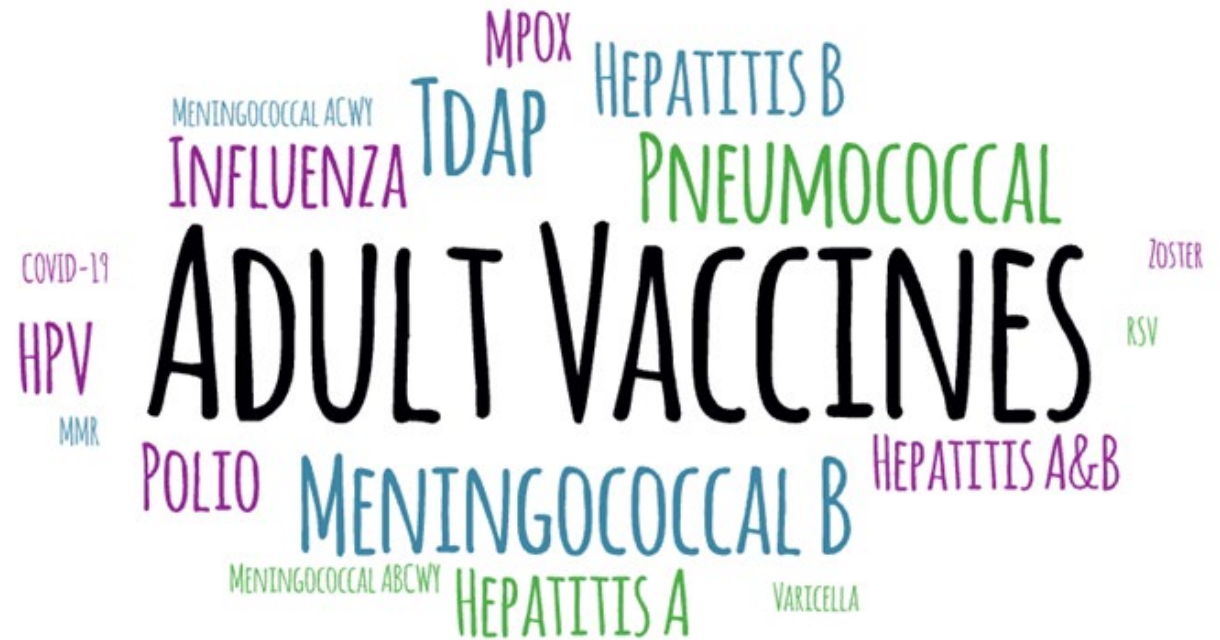
Eligibility After July 1, 2026

- Children (0-18) → No change
- Adults (19-64) → Now included in the program



Which vaccines will be available?

- All routinely recommended childhood vaccines
- Maine Vaccine Board voted earlier this month to include all routinely recommended adult vaccines



Ordering Flu & COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering

- **2026-2027 Season (this year):**

- Flu and COVID-19 vaccines **will NOT** be supplied through the program for **privately insured** adults aged 19-64.
 - Providers should plan to order these vaccines privately.
- Limited supply will be available for: uninsured and underinsured individuals.
- Flu and COVID-19 vaccines will be available for those 0 – 18 years of age during the 2027-2028 season

- **Looking Ahead:**

- Flu and COVID-19 vaccines will be included beginning Fall 2027.
- Additional guidance will be provided as we get closer to that timeframe.



How will ordering work?

- Ordering and tracking for both childhood and adult vaccinations will be done through the Immunization Information System (IIS).
- Vaccines will be shipped from our centralized distributor (McKesson) directly to the provider office.
- Orders can be placed on an as needed basis, but we encourage providers to maintain a vaccine supply that will last 4-6 weeks.



Storage Units and Temperature Monitoring

- Use appropriate vaccine storage units
- Stand alone and medical-grade preferred
- Dorm style units are prohibited
- Continuous temperature monitoring is required (MIP will provide these)
- (Digital Data Logger – DDL)
- Keep temperature logs and respond to excursions
- Plan for about 4–6 weeks of inventory
- We can help assess your current setup



Enrollment: What sites are eligible?

Any provider in the state of Maine who:

Can prescribe vaccines:

- MD, DO, ND
- Physician Associate
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurse
- ADV-certified Pharmacist



And serves eligible patients, including:

- Uninsured
- Underinsured
- Privately insured
- MaineCare members



Vaccine Coordinator Role

- Serves as the main point of contact with MIP
- Manages vaccine ordering and inventory
- Monitors and records temperatures
- Ensures proper storage and handling
- Keeps basic documentation up to date



A backup coordinator is also required and is expected to take over responsibilities when the primary cannot.

What are the Program Requirements?

What's expected?

- Sign a provider agreement
- The main required piece is the annual education and quiz.
 - If you have a new coordinator, they'll also need to complete training.
- Sites must make all recommended vaccines available (or be willing to order when needed)
- Store and handle vaccines properly (including temperature monitoring)
- Enter all administered state-supplied vaccines into ImmPact
- Data exchange between ImmPact and your EMR/EHR
- Maintain temperature monitoring logs and,
- Vaccine reconciliation and doses administered



See [MIP Provider Policy & Procedure Manual](#) for details

Getting Started

- Discuss with your Medical Director
- Reach out to MIP to get started
ImmunizeME.DHHS@maine.gov
- Complete a few enrollment forms
- Assign a vaccine coordinator and back-up vaccine coordinator
- Complete required training
- We guide you through the rest



What if we don't enroll?

- Providers must purchase vaccines privately (financial burden)
- No access to state-supplied, no-cost vaccines
- Limited access to ImmPact (Maine IIS)



Next Steps for Current MIP Providers

Before July 1:

- Continue using your privately purchased adult vaccine inventory.
- Adult 317 ordering is currently paused.
- Continue billing insurers for privately purchased vaccine while inventory remains.
- Complete the [Vaccine Needs Assessment](#).
- Ordering opens for adult vaccine on July 1.

Starting July 1:

- Ordering opens for adult vaccine through the Maine Immunization Program.
- No need to maintain separate inventory by age group.
- Use vaccine for any group when it is age-appropriate and administered following current recommendations.

New Providers: Enrollment Process

Getting Started

1. Contact MIP to begin enrollment.
2. Submit enrollment documents and complete required training.
3. Schedule and complete enrollment visit.
4. Receive ImmPact training and IIS access.
5. Begin ordering vaccine after enrollment is complete and on or after July 1.

Additional Information for New Providers

Reminders:

- No deadline to enroll.
- Providers may join the program at any time.
- Most providers should not purchase additional private vaccine.
- Additional guidance and resources will be released throughout June.
- A dedicated webpage will serve as the central source for enrollment and implementation information.

Questions?



Contact Us

Caitlin Anton
Adult Vaccine Program Manager
Caitlin.Anton@maine.gov

Kristen Coaty
Public Health Advisor
Kristen.Coaty@maine.gov

