



Aetna Better Health® of Louisiana

# AETNA BETTER HEALTH® d/b/a Aetna Better Health of Louisiana Policy

Policy Name: Vaccines for Children	Page: 1 of 3
Department: Reimbursement	Policy Number: ABHLA-RP-A0015
Subsection:	Effective Date: 08/01/2021
Applies to: Aetna Better Health of Louisiana	

## **PURPOSE:**

To provide guidance for the reimbursement of immunizations administered to members from birth through 18 years of age via the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program, as well as for the reimbursement of immunizations for populations such as waivers programs, 421 CMO, children not eligible for VFC, or for vaccines not provided by VFC.

## **STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVE/OVERVIEW:**

Aetna Better Health of Louisiana (ABHLA) reimburses the administration fee for vaccines provided by the VFC Program for eligible members (birth through 18 years of age), except where provider, state, federal, CMS, or other requirements or contracts specify otherwise.

ABHLA reimburses VFC vaccine administration fees to only those providers who are registered with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as VFC Providers. For additional information about enrolling as a VFC Provider, visit [CDC Why Join and How to Become a VFC Provider](#) and [LDH Louisiana Vaccines for Children](#).

VFC Providers must use vaccines available without charge under the Vaccine for Children (VFC) Program for Medicaid children eighteen (18) years old and younger. Immunizations shall be given in conjunction with EPSDT/Well Child visits or when other appropriate opportunities exist.

### Reimbursement

ABHLA reimburses per the [Louisiana Medicaid immunization fee schedule](#), then per the contract and, if necessary, a negotiated rate up to the maximum fee limits set by the CDC and applicable modifiers.

ABHLA does not reimburse VFC Providers for vaccine serum, as it is provided at no cost by the VFC Program.

## **ADMINISTRATION**



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Claims submitted for vaccination(s) must include serum code(s) for compliance with regulatory and HEDIS® reporting requirements to indicate that members are receiving required immunization(s). Claims submitted without applicable serum, administration, and modifier codes may be rejected and/or denied.

Vaccine administration is reimbursed separately from office visits or well-child exams. ABHLA does not reimburse an office visit when vaccine administration is the only service performed.

### Non-VFC Vaccines

ABHLA reimburses providers for the administration and serum for members not eligible for VFC, or for vaccines not provided by VFC. Reimbursement is based on the fee schedule, then according to the contract and, if necessary, according to a negotiated rate.

### Shortages

Should a documented supply shortage occur within the Louisiana VFC program, ABHLA will reimburse providers for serum(s) according to the fee schedule, then according to the contract and, if necessary, according to a negotiated rate. ABHLA is alerted by LDH and through the Louisiana Health Alert Network when vaccine shortages occur and will communicate this information to the network as appropriate.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

HEDIS®	The Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set was created by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) and is a set of performance measures used for tracking health data.
VFC Provider	A provider who has enrolled with their state and meets all state and CDC guidelines for VFC Program participation.

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**LEGAL/CONTRACT REFERENCE:**

[Louisiana Department of Health Professional Services Provider Manual](#)  
[ACIP for CDC Recommendations and Guidelines](#)

Review/Revision History	
08/01/2021	Effective Date.