

Prepare. Act. Confirm. Engage.

Prepare: Get Started

- Register with your state Department of Public Health as an immunizing pharmacy.
- Register with your state Immunization Information System (IIS) for access to review immunization histories and report immunizations administered. *Most states have a significant backlog to test with immunization reporting services (such as OmniSYS® and Script Management Partners) but will on-board pharmacies for manual access.*
- Pharmacists as prescribers may need a Type 1 National Provider Identification (NPI) number. *The emergency order authorizes pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 vaccines.*
- A pharmacy NPI number is required for billing vaccine administration.
- Verify that your National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) pharmacy profile shows you offer immunizations.

Pharmacist education/training requirements:

- An ACPE-approved practical training program of at least 20 hours is required and should include hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines. **Resources:** *APhA's Certificate Training Program for Pharmacy-based Immunization Delivery meets this requirement.*
- Basic Life Support/CPR training
- State-specific training requirements from Board of Pharmacy.

Act: Sign Up

After completing the Plan checklist, it's time to enroll with Medicare and sign up through the RedSail Advantage for special pricing.

Billing

If you are enrolled in Medicare to bill for influenza and pneumonia vaccines, you don't need to take any action to administer and bill Medicare B for the COVID-19 shot.

- If you enrolled in Medicare, but your provider type doesn't allow you to bill for administering vaccines, you must also separately enroll as a mass immunizer. Enrolling over the phone as a mass immunizer is easy and quick – call your MAC-specific enrollment hotline at [cms.gov/files/document/covid-19-mac-webpages-and-hotlines.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-19-mac-webpages-and-hotlines.pdf) and give your valid Legal Business Name (LBN), National Provider Identifier (NPI), Tax Identification Number (TIN), practice location and state license, if applicable.
- If you're not a Medicare provider, you must qualify and enroll as a mass immunizer (or other Medicare provider type that allows billing for administering vaccines), so you can bill for administering COVID-19 shots. Enrolling over the phone as a mass immunizer is also easy and quick – call your MAC-specific enrollment hotline at [cms.gov/files/document/covid-19-mac-webpages-and-hotlines.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-19-mac-webpages-and-hotlines.pdf) and give your valid LBN, NPI, TIN, practice location and state license, if applicable.

Note: Medicare billing privileges established via the Medicare Provider Enrollment Hotline are being granted on a provisional basis as a result of the public health emergency declaration and are temporary. Upon the lifting of the COVID-19 PHE declaration, providers and suppliers, will be asked to submit a complete CMS-855B enrollment application in order to establish full Medicare billing privileges.

Failure to respond to the MAC's request within 30 days of the notification, will result in the deactivation of your temporary billing privileges. No payments can be made for services provided while your temporary billing privileges are deactivated.

- Contract with a Medical Billing service such as OmniSYS CareCLAIM® to convert prescription claims to medical claims and submit on your behalf. You can sign up for OmniSYS CareCLAIM through our RedSail Advantage Program and receive special pricing at redsailtechnologies.com/advantage.

Uninsured:

The COVID-19 vaccine administration, as well as conducting COVID-19 testing, will be covered for the uninsured through the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will provide reimbursement for these services generally at Medicare rates, subject to available funding through the CARES Act.

Pharmacies must enroll as a provider participant, check patient eligibility, submit patient information, and submit the claim in order to receive payment via direct deposit.

- a. Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) has contracted with UnitedHealth Group® to be the sole administrator of the Uninsured Program for COVID-19. You will need a direct deposit/Automated Clearing House (ACH) account with Optum Pay™. You can sign in with your Optum Bank® ID, or if you do not have an Optum account, you can create an Optum ID. Go to myservices.optumhealthpaymentservices.com/epsFaq.do and click "How to enroll - ACH" for instructions on how to sign up for an ACH account.
- b. Once you have an Optum ID, you will need to validate the facility's TIN, set up Optum Pay ACH, add Provider roster, add and attest to patient, and submit claims for reimbursement.
- c. When submitting claims, you will need the Payer ID (95964), Payer name (COVID19 HRSA Uninsured Testing and Treatment Fund), and temporary member ID for each patient (found in the program portal after submitting patient roster).

It is essential for pharmacies to attest to the following:

- a. You have checked for healthcare coverage eligibility and confirmed that the patient is uninsured, verifying no other payer will reimburse you for the COVID-19 vaccine administration (i.e. no coverage through an individual or employer-sponsored plan, federal healthcare program or Federal Employees Health Benefits Program)
- b. You accept the defined reimbursement as payment in full
- c. You agree not to balance bill the patient
- d. You agree to terms and conditions (with the potential of post-reimbursement audit review)

Commercial and Medicaid plans are required to reimburse providers, in- and out-of-network, for vaccine administration and may do so as a medical or prescription claim.

Confirm: Validate and Verify

Reporting

- COVID-19 vaccination providers must report COVID-19 vaccine inventory daily into the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Vaccine Finder at vaccinefinder.org
- COVID-19 vaccination providers are required to report adverse events after COVID-19 vaccination to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).
- COVID-19 vaccination providers must document vaccine administration in their medical record systems within 24 hours of administration, and use their best efforts to report administration data to the relevant system for the jurisdiction (i.e., state registry IIS) as soon as practicable and no later than 72 hours after administration.

Engage: You're Ready

Resources:

cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/downloads/COVID-19-Vaccination-Program-Interim_Playbook.pdf

[ascp.com/page/disaster_resources](https://www.ascp.com/page/disaster_resources)

[pharmacist.com/coronavirus](https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus)

[ncpa.org/coronavirus-information](https://www.ncpa.org/coronavirus-information)

[pharmacist.com/sites/default/files/audience/APhACOVIDAAuthoritytoImmunize_1220_web.pdf](https://www.pharmacist.com/sites/default/files/audience/APhACOVIDAAuthoritytoImmunize_1220_web.pdf)

For additional RedSail Advantage information, visit [redsailadvantage.com](https://www.redsailadvantage.com) or email OmniSYSales@redsailtechnologies.com