

COVID-19 program update—Alberta (fall 2025)

To streamline access to COVID-19 vaccines in the fall, the Government of Alberta is adjusting its previously announced four-phased rollout plan that will begin in October. Phase 1 appointments for eligible Albertans will begin on October 1, 2025, and will be free-of-charge. Phase 2 appointments for all other Albertans, pending vaccine availability, will begin on October 20, 2025, and there will be a \$100 administrative fee charged to the patient. For more information on the eligibility criteria and how to book an appointment, please see the COVID-19 info for Albertans webpage at <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>.

As part of this approach, pharmacies will be eligible to provide COVID-19 and influenza vaccine as part of the Alberta Outreach Immunization Program.

Outreach COVID-19 and influenza immunization program vaccine allocation

Primary Care Alberta will continue to lead and coordinate the Alberta Immunization Outreach Program for senior congregate care settings. Owners and operators of senior congregate care settings are responsible for arranging immunization services for residents. Pharmacies offering immunizations in senior congregate care will coordinate with facilities to confirm participation and provide information for vaccine distribution. Pharmacy providers will need to coordinate with facility staff and supply key operational details about the locations they will provide immunization services for.

Immunization providers participating in Alberta's Outreach Immunization Program are expected to follow all relevant regulations and policies, including timely electronic submission of immunization data, reporting adverse events and ensuring proper vaccine storage, handling and inventory management practices. Providers must assess vaccine eligibility and support catch-up immunizations. Providers should conduct **three** immunization visits during peak respiratory illness season. Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines must be offered to all residents. Immunization can be offered to congregate care staff if vaccine doses remain after all residents are immunized. Additionally, when vaccine supply is received by your pharmacy to support outreach immunization activities, health care workers involved in these efforts may be immunized immediately to enable timely rollout, protect staff, decrease transmission to residents and ensure continuity of services.

The Alberta Outreach Immunization Policy will be posted on the Alberta Immunization Policy (AIP) website (<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-immunization-policy>). This includes eligibility criteria as well as roles and responsibilities for pharmacies participating in the Outreach Immunization Program.

In September, Primary and Preventative Health Services will email each participating pharmacy with the final vaccine allocations, and the primary pharmacy wholesale distributor will prioritize vaccine delivery. The Alberta Outreach Immunization program for COVID-19 and influenza vaccines will start **October 1, 2025**.

There will be no administrative fee charged for outreach eligible populations who wish to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Pharmacies providing outreach will still be able to bill through Alberta Blue Cross®, for the administration fee of provincially funded vaccines.

Please refer to **Benefact 1266** for further information regarding standard dose and senior dose influenza distribution for the general public program.

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Influenza vaccine information fall 2025

In fall 2025, all influenza vaccine available will be a trivalent vaccine. The influenza vaccine available for seniors' will be Fludax, an adjuvanted influenza vaccine. The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) considers the adjuvanted influenza vaccine is as effective as the high dose influenza vaccine. The committee has also removed the preferential recommendation for high dose vaccine.

The following vaccines may be distributed to pharmacies for the fall 2025 influenza immunization season.

AVI name	DIN	Manufacturer	Format	Package size
Fluzone® TIV PFS 10 dose/pkg	02365707	Sanofi	PFS	10 dose/pkg
Fluviral® 10 dose/vial/pkg	02420686	GlaxoSmithKline	MDV	10 dose/vial
Fludax® TIV 10 dose/pkg	02362384	Seqirus	PFS	10 dose/pkg
Flucelvax® TIV PFS 10 dose/pk	02553708	Seqirus	PFS	10 dose/pkg

Influenza vaccine Product Identification Number (PIN) information

Information regarding COVID-19 products, and the claims PINs will be shared in September 2025. Below are products and the claims PINs for Influenza vaccine.

Product	Description	PIN (pharmacy use)	Descriptor
Fluzone® (Sanofi)	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	12120050	Routine Recommended
		12120022	LTC/DSL Outreach
Fluviral® (GSK)	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	12030050	Routine Recommended
		12030022	LTC/DSL Outreach
FLUDAX® (Seqirus)	FLU-ADJ (Influenza, Adjuvanted)	18110050	Routine Recommended
		18110022	LTC/DSL Outreach
Flucelvax® (Seqirus)	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	12110050	Routine Recommended
		12110022	LTC/DSL Outreach

Alberta Immunization Policy (AIP) website

This webpage provides resources for immunization service providers, including updated biological pages for COVID-19, influenza and RSV vaccines as well as [new](#) guidelines for cold chain storage and handling. These documents will be updated in the coming weeks.

Please note: RSV vaccines can be administered at the same time as, or at any time before or after, other vaccines.

For more information, visit the Alberta Immunization Policy website (<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-immunization-policy>).

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area)

403-294-4041 (Calgary and area)

1-800-361-9632 (toll free)

FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area)

FAX 1-877-305-9911 (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct-bill drug claims.

Visit ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php

