

Continuing as Partners in Immunization: Updates to Practice and Legislation for Pediatric Pharmacy Immunizations

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ABBREVIATIONS CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

J Pediatr Pharmacol Ther 2025;30(5):691–695

DOI: 10.5863/JPPT-25-01216

Immunizations are an essential public health intervention for pediatric patients. Since the publication of the Pediatric Pharmacy Association's White Paper, Pharmacists as Partners in Pediatric Immunizations, in December 2024, many changes in state laws and federal processes have occurred.¹ In this paper, the members of the Pediatric Pharmacy Association's Immunizations Committee provide updated information and links to state resources to ensure that pediatric pharmacists and other healthcare providers understand some of the changes to provide the best care for their pediatric patients.

Pharmacists need to be familiar with state pharmacy practice laws, as these govern pharmacist immunization authority outside of the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness act. This act allows pharmacists to provide COVID-19 and influenza vaccines to children as young as 3 years old through December 2029.² The Table provides an update to the state specific pharmacist immunization regulation and adds information about state specific processes (eg, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] schedule, follow state protocol, collaborative practice agreement) that pharmacists must follow to provide immunizations to children. It is important to note that all immunizations provided through the Vaccine for Children program must adhere to the CDC's immunization recommendations.³ For additional evidence-based resources for the pharmacist, the American Academy of Pediatrics has released an independent 2025 immunization schedule and posted it as an open resource on their website.⁴ Additionally, at the time of publication, it was noted that multiple states have announced changes to statewide pharmacist vaccine authority as it applies to COVID-19 vaccination.⁵ As all states now provide pharmacists with some degree of immunization authority, and this area continues to expand, pharmacists must stay up to date on regulatory changes that impact their practice.

Article Information

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Disclosure. The authors declare no conflicts or financial interest in any product or service mentioned in the manuscript, including grants, equipment, medications, employment, gifts, and honoraria. All authors attest to meeting the four criteria recommended by the ICMJE for authorship of this manuscript.

Submitted. July 22, 2025

Accepted. July 22, 2025

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3. National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (US) Immunization Services Division. Vaccine for Children (VFC) Program Operations Guide. 2024.

Table. Pharmacist Pediatric Immunization Authority and Regulation Resources

State*	Pharmacist Authorized to Provide at Least Some Immunizations to Persons <18 yr†	Pharmacist Authorized to Provide Immunizations Other Than COVID-19, Influenza, and/or Declared Emergency to Those as Young as 7 yr	Pharmacists Authorized to Provide Immunizations Other Than COVID-19 and/or Influenza as Young as 12 yr	Pharmacist Immunization CE Requirements	Requirements for Immunizing Pharmacists
Alabama	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each cycle	ACIP
Alaska	Yes	Yes	Yes	1 hr CE annually	Independent prescribing
Arizona	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each cycle	Per ACIP, Rx, or CPA
Arkansas	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each cycle	Rx or CPA. Must participate in VFC, which requires following ACIP
California	Yes	Yes	Yes	1 hr CE each cycle	Rx or both FDA & ACIP
Colorado	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	Rx or CPA, needs to be per ACIP 2/3/2020
Connecticut	Yes	No	Yes	1 hr annually	On adult ACIP schedule, instructions on CDC website, or Rx. Must follow package insert or Rx
Delaware	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each cycle	Rx or CPA
District of Columbia	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each cycle	Rx or CPA either per ACIP or physician-patient relationship
Florida	Yes	No	No	3 hr CE each cycle (in addition to vaccines, must also include education on epinephrine)	CPA
Georgia	Yes	No	No	—	CPA
Hawaii	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each cycle	ACIP
Idaho	Yes	Yes	Yes	1 hr CE annually	Independent prescribing
Illinois	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each cycle	Rx or CPA
Indiana	Yes	No	Yes	—	State protocol, currently based on ACIP. If not on protocol can have Rx or CPA
Iowa	Yes	No	Yes, only final dose(s) HPV	1 hr CE each cycle	State protocol
Kansas	Yes	No	Yes	—	CPA

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Table. Pharmacist Pediatric Immunization Authority and Regulation Resources (*cont.*)

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Kentucky	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	CPA, or in emergencies statewide protocol
Louisiana	Yes	No	Yes, but only at age 17+ yr	1 hr CE each yr	ACIP
Maine	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each year on drug administration	Influenza based on rules of board, others based on ACIP
Maryland	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE per cycle	CPA that follows ACIP or FDA
Massachusetts	Yes	Yes	Yes	1 hr CE each yr	ACIP
Michigan	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	ACIP
Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	ACIP
Mississippi	Yes	No	Yes	—	CPA
Missouri	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hrs per cycle	CPA
Montana	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	Independent prescribing – influenza; CPA that follows ACIP others
Nebraska	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	CPA
Nevada	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each year or a course provided by the CDC	CPA
New Hampshire	Yes	No	No	—	Independent prescribing
New Jersey	Yes	No	No	2 hr CE each cycle	Rx or CPA
New Mexico	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE every cycle	State protocol that currently follows ACIP
New York	Yes	No	No	—	Rx or CPA
North Carolina	Yes	Yes	Yes	3 hr CE every cycle	ACIP for COVID & Influenza; others by Rx if follows ACIP
North Dakota	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	Statewide protocol that currently follows ACIP
Ohio	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	CPA

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Oklahoma	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE per cycle	Pharmacists based on FDA approval or RX, but technicians must follow ACIP
Oregon	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	Rx, CPA, or statewide protocol. Statewide protocol currently references ACIP, but is made individually for each immunization
Pennsylvania	Yes	No	No	2 hr CE per cycle	CPA or Rx
Rhode Island	Yes	No	No	1 hr CE each yr	CPA or RX in line with manufacturers guidance, ACIP or AAP
South Carolina	Yes	Yes	Yes	1 hr CE each yr	Statewide protocol that currently states to ensure dosing is in line with labeling and ACIP
South Dakota	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	Rx or CPA
Tennessee	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	Independent prescribing for COVID & influenza; others per CPA
Texas	Yes	Yes	Yes	3 hr CE per cycle	CPA
Utah	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE per cycle	Statewide protocol which currently follows ACIP
Vermont	Yes	No	No	2 hr CE per cycle	Independent prescribing
Virginia	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	Statewide protocol that currently follows ACIP
Washington	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	CPA
West Virginia	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 hr CE each yr	ACIP
Wisconsin	Yes	Yes	Yes	—	Rx or ACIP
Wyoming	Yes	Yes	Yes	1 hr CE each yr	Manufacturers labeling

ACIP, Recommended by the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices; CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CE, continuing education; CPA, collaborative practice agreement; FDA, approved by the Food and Drug Administration; HPV, human papillomavirus vaccine; Rx, by prescription, VFC, Vaccines for Children

* Each state name is a hyperlink to state specific regulations. Links last updated June 27, 2025

† Includes states that only authorize pharmacists to provide 1 or 2 immunizations to this age group, such as COVID-19 or influenza.

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