



WA Free Influenza Vaccination in May & June 2023 Program Pharmacy FAQs

Do all pharmacies have to participate in the Program?

Participation in the Program is optional.

PBS and non-PBS pharmacies can participate. Pharmacies wishing to participate and receive payment for vaccine administration MUST complete a Service Level Agreement. Please contact us at freeflu@wa.guild.org.au for any queries relating to program registration.

Who is eligible to receive free influenza vaccines under the Program?

Everyone in WA 5 Years and over are eligible to receive a free influenza vaccine administered by a pharmacy from 1 May to 30th June 2023.

Can private stock of influenza vaccines be used for NIP patients and vice versa?

Government-funded NIP and State Vaccines (stock obtained through onelink) can only be used for NIP eligible persons, in accordance with the current WA Immunisation Schedule. Private stock can should be used for those ineligible for a NIP or WA state-funded influenza vaccine.

Are patients aged 65 years and over eligible to receive free Influenza Vaccine under this programme?

Yes, people aged 65 years and over are eligible to receive FludQuad under this Program.

Do patients have to be a WA resident to be eligible?

No, all people in Western Australia throughout the duration of the Program, 1st May to 30th June 2023, who have not already received an Influenza Vaccine in 2023 are eligible.

Are non-Medicare card holders eligible to receive free Influenza Vaccinations under the Program?

Yes, non-Medicare Card holders can receive free influenza vaccinations under this Program as long as the vaccine administration record is uploaded to the AIR.

Can the influenza vaccines be administered outside of the pharmacy premises under the Program?

As per the WA Department of Health [SASA - Pharmacist Influenza Vaccination](#) document, influenza vaccines can be administered at any place or premises in Western Australia that complies with Appendix 2 of the SASA.

Can I charge the patient for the influenza vaccination service?

Pharmacies are NOT permitted to charge the patient any fees under this Program. If you claim or receive a payment for an influenza service through other means (e.g. private health fund vouchers, corporate-flu vaccination) you can NOT also claim remuneration under this Program.

Can I charge the patient for high-cost vaccines?

Some vaccines have a higher cost of goods (e.g., Fluzone High-Dose Quad vaccine and FlucelvacQuad influenza vaccines). Although eligible for funding under the Free Flu Program it should be noted that Government reimbursement for the cost of goods is capped at \$9 (plus GST) with the administration fee set at \$20 (plus GST). Pharmacies are NOT permitted to charge the patient any co-payment fees under this Program.

Which brands of influenza vaccines are covered under this Program?

Egg-based influenza vaccines indicated for patients aged 5 years and over are covered under this Program. FludQuad is an adjuvanted vaccine reserved for patients aged 65 years and over. All other egg-based vaccines (VaxigripTetra, FluarixTetra, AfluriaQuad, FluQuadri,



InfluvacTetra) can be used for patients aged 5 years and over, however Immunisation providers may **not** use a vaccine provided by WA Health (ordered from Onelink) for General (Non NIP Eligible Patients) for the Free influenza vaccine in May-June 2023 program.

Privately purchased stock should be used for those not eligible for a NIP or WA state-funded influenza vaccine.

Fluzone High-Dose Quad vaccine and FlucelvaxQuad influenza vaccines are not fully subsidised under this Program.

How will Pharmacies be paid under the Program?

Pharmacies will be paid by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia Western Australian Branch on behalf of the Western Australian Department of Health into their nominated bank account. Payments will be made on receipt of vaccine data reports submitted via an email link which will be sent to pharmacies on the last day of each reporting period.

Report 1: Submissions for influenza vaccinations administered between 1st May and 14th May 2023 open 15th May 2023. Submissions close on 22nd May 2023.

Report 2: Submissions for influenza vaccinations administered between 15th May and 31st May 2023 open 1st June 2023. Submissions close on 8th June 2023.

Report 3: Submissions for influenza vaccinations administered between 1st June and 16th June 2023 open 16th June 2023. Submissions close on 23rd June 2023.

Report 4: Submissions for influenza vaccinations administered between 17th June and 30th June 2023 open 30th June 2023. Submissions close on 10th July 2023.

A payment of \$20.00 + GST will be made for administration of government funded influenza vaccines (State and NIP).

A payment of \$29.00 + GST will be made for administration of privately purchased influenza vaccines.

How do I order stock of influenza vaccines?

Private stock: You can purchase influenza vaccines through your regular wholesalers pending stock availability.

NIP/State stock: government-funded influenza vaccines (for NIP/State eligible groups) can be ordered through the State Onelink vaccine ordering account
https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/U_Z/Vaccine-ordering

Any queries relating to Onelink accounts or ordering of government-funded influenza vaccines should be directed to vaccineorders@health.wa.gov.au

How do I generate an AIR uploads report?

You can generate AIR reports from your Professional Services Recording Platform (e.g., MedAdvisor, Go-Bookings) or directly from the Australian Immunisation Register portal.

I have accidentally reported incorrectly, can this be adjusted?

Please email the correct details to freeflu@wa.guild.org.au and we will make the adjustment on your form.



Will the program be audited?

The WA Government retains the right to audit participating pharmacies and order them to repay or take other action if they determine it is appropriate – with a trigger being over-claiming of 5 or more vaccinations when compared to the Pharmacy AIR data for the period.

Further FAQs are available from the Department website:

https://www.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/F_1/Free-influenza-vaccine-in-May-2023-program