

2024/2025 Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP) now accepting applications

Update to York Region health care professionals as of May 31, 2024

The Ministry of Health is now accepting applications for the 2024/2025 Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP).

If your organization would like to participate in the UIIP and safely store, handle, and administer publicly funded influenza vaccines this upcoming season, please complete and submit your application to the Ministry of Health on or **before June 30, 2024**.

Organizations that already receive publicly funded vaccine(s) other than the influenza vaccine do not need to apply to participate in the UIIP.

Please see the four-step process below to learn more about the UIIP application process. For additional information, please visit the Ministry of Health website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/universal-influenza-immunization-program>.

1. Complete and submit an application form

Organizations will need to submit the [Prequalification Form for Organizations](#) (available at the website above). Remember, if your organization already receives publicly funded vaccine(s) other than the publicly funded influenza vaccine, you do **not** need to apply to participate in the UIIP.

Note: The Prequalification Form is an online, paperless process and organizations are encouraged to complete their applications electronically before the June 30, 2024, 11:59 p.m. EST deadline. Applications will not be accepted over email. Please follow the instructions on the form.

Your organization must have a valid insurance policy covering the period between September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025. Additional insurance requirements can be found in the application.

2. Receipt of a Ministry email confirming application submission

The Ministry will respond within two business days to ALL application form submissions.

3. Cold chain inspection

You will be contacted by York Region Public Health (YRPH) to arrange an inspection of the vaccine refrigerator(s) that will be used to store the publicly funded influenza vaccines. During this visit, YRPH will assess your organization's compliance with the Ministry's vaccine storage and handling requirements which are detailed in the [Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines](#).

YRPH will only have **one** opportunity to conduct the required cold chain inspection for each organization, so organizations must be well-prepared for the inspection.

In preparation for your inspection, please review the following and ensure you meet the requirements:

- [Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines](#)

- Complete the [YRPH Vaccine Storage and Handling e-Learning Module](#). Print your certificate of completion and have it ready for your inspection.
- Additional Recommendations, below

You may experience inspection delays due to the high volume of inspections that occur at this time.

4. Approval to participate in the 2024/2025 UIIP

If your organization is approved for receiving the influenza vaccine, you will be notified by email from the Ministry of Health before the launch of the 2024/2025 UIIP in the Fall. The 2024/2025 UIIP implementation materials will be available at ontario.ca/influenza in Fall 2024.

Additional Recommendations

The cold chain inspection can be scheduled for any time after your application is accepted by the Ministry.

To prepare for your inspection, review and complete the following steps:

- Assess the suitability of your vaccine refrigerator and consider upgrading to a purpose-built (or laboratory grade) refrigeration unit to ensure vaccines are stored safely. Please view this [infographic](#) for further details.
- Using a digital max/min thermometer, document refrigerator temperatures (current, maximum, and minimum) twice daily including the date, time, and your initials in the [Vaccine Temperature Log Book](#).

Example:

Month: Nov 2020 Office/Facility: YOR_NW_12345 ABC Family Pharmacy

Week 1	Mon	1	Tue	2	Wed	3	Thur	4	Fri	5	Sat	6	Sun	7
Time	9:05 AM	5:02 PM	9:08 AM	4:58 PM	9:03 AM	5:06 PM	9:11 AM	5:07 PM	9:16 AM	5:10 PM	9:03 AM	5:10 PM	10:00 AM	5:15 PM
Current Temp	5.8	4.1	3.4	3.9	5.7	4.5	5.3	3.6	3.1	3.2	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.4
Max Temp	6.0	5.0	5.9	4.1	6.1	4.6	6.3	3.9	5.8	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.1	5.9
Min Temp	3.4	3.9	2.9	3.3	4.0	4.0	2.7	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.1
Initials	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB	DB

At least five (5) continuous business days of temperature recordings are required to demonstrate the vaccine refrigerator is working within the acceptable range of +2.0°C to +8.0°C prior to your inspection.

- Ensure a copy of the [Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines](#) is readily available
- Review your previous year's cold chain inspection report and ensure outstanding issues have been addressed
- Change the batteries of your thermometers every six months and document the date when the change was made in the [Vaccine Temperature Log Book](#)
- Ensure your transport cooler and supplies (including ice packs and fridge blankets) are readily available
- Cold chain supplies including temperature log books, transport coolers, thermometers, ice packs and fridge blankets can be obtained free of charge from one of the YRPH office locations listed below:

- 17150 Yonge Street, Newmarket
 - 9060 Jane Street, Vaughan
 - 50 High Tech Road, Richmond Hill
 - 4261 Highway 7 East, Markham
 - 24262 Woodbine Avenue, Georgina
- Remove all expired flu vaccines from the refrigerator and complete the [Non-Reusable Vaccines Wastage Form](#). Drop off expired vaccines along with a completed Non-Reusable Vaccines Form at any of the YRPH office locations listed above, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Questions? Contact York Region Public Health

If you have any questions about the UIIP or vaccine storage and handling requirements, visit york.ca/vaccineinventory, contact York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74033 or email vaccineinventory@york.ca.

Thank you for your interest in the 2024/2025 UIIP and we look forward to your participation.