

July 14, 2015

Dear Provider,

You recently received communication regarding vaccine program changes for ARKids-B beneficiaries. This letter is to provide additional information and clarify requirements for vaccine storage.

As previously announced, it is anticipated that on Aug. 1, ARKids-B beneficiaries will no longer be eligible for the VFC program. ARKids-B beneficiaries will still be eligible for vaccines through the ARKids-B SCHIP Vaccines Program. Vaccines for ARKids-B beneficiaries can be obtained by contacting Bill Ledford at the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) by calling 501-661-2723 or emailing William.ledford@arkansas.gov.

Providers must differentiate between SCHIP and VFC vaccines for auditing purposes due to the funding source. In addition to clearly labeling the VFC and ARKids-B SCHIP vaccine vials, providers must separate the vaccines by one of the following ways:

- Placing the vaccines on separate shelves in the refrigeration unit
- Labeling a split box with a Sharpie or by utilizing stickers
- Placing the vaccines in separate refrigeration devices

Please note that while storage in separate refrigeration units is one option, it is not a requirement.

A tool kit has been provided by ADH that provides information on proper vaccine handling and storage, which can be accessed online at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit.pdf>.

Sincerely,

Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Services