

# **2022/2023 Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP)**

## **now accepting applications**

**Update to York Region Pharmacies as of May 6, 2022**

The Ministry of Health is now accepting applications for the 2022/2023 Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP).

If your pharmacy would like to safely store, handle, and administer publicly-funded influenza vaccines during the coming season, complete and submit your application to the Ministry of Health on or **before July 10, 2022**.

For information on the UIIP application process, including the User Agreement, please visit the Ministry of Health website: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/flu/uiip/> or see the four-step application process below.

### **1. Complete and submit an application form to UIIP.MOH@Ontario.ca**

Pharmacies will need to submit the *User Agreement for Pharmacies with a Licensed Injection-Trained Pharmacist* (available at the website above).

### **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**

York Region Public Health (YRPH) will conduct a cold chain inspection to assess your compliance with the Ministry's vaccine storage and handling requirements which are detailed in the [Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines](#).

YRPH will have one opportunity to conduct the required cold chain inspection for each pharmacy, so pharmacies must be well-prepared for the inspection.

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

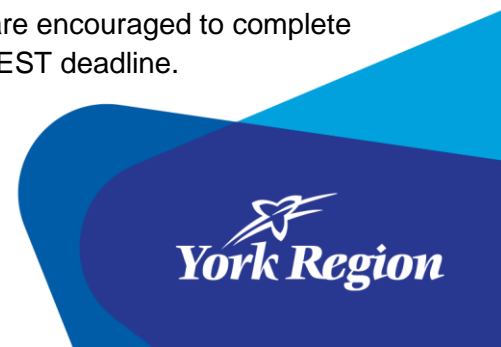
- [Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines](#)
- York Region Public Health vaccine storage and handling [instructional videos](#)
- Additional Recommendations, below

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

### **4. Approval to participate in the 2022/2023 UIIP**

All pharmacies approved for receiving influenza vaccine through this process will be notified by email from the Ministry of Health prior to the launch of the 2022/2023 UIIP in Fall 2022. The 2022/2023 UIIP implementation materials will be available at [ontario.ca/influenza](http://ontario.ca/influenza) in Fall 2022.

**Note:** The User Agreement is an online, paperless process and pharmacies are encouraged to complete their applications electronically in advance of the July 10, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. EST deadline.



A valid insurance policy covering the period September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023 is required. Insurance requirement details can be found in the User Agreement.

One of the requirements for pharmacies to be eligible to administer COVID-19 vaccines is that they participate in the UIIP and have a valid UIIP Agreement in place. Pharmacies who are not yet participating but wish to enroll in the COVID-19 vaccine administration program must submit an application for the 2022/2023 UIIP. Pharmacies currently providing COVID-19 vaccines are required to renew their UIIP Agreement for 2022/2023 in order to remain eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine administration program.

## Additional Recommendations

A cold chain inspection can happen any time after your application is accepted by the Ministry. YRPH will have one opportunity to conduct the required cold chain inspection for each pharmacy, so pharmacies must be well-prepared for the inspection.

To prepare for your inspection, we recommend 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](#). A digital max/min thermometer with a glycol-enclosed probe is recommended. Please view this [infographic](#) for further details

Example:

Month: Nov 2020 Office/Facility: YOR-NW-1 2 3 4 5 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	5:05 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	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DR

At least five 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 Refrigerator Maintenance 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 form at any of the YRPH office locations listed above, Monday to Friday, 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.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](http://york.ca/vaccineinventory), contact York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74033 or email [vaccineinventory@york.ca](mailto:vaccineinventory@york.ca).

The Universal Influenza Immunization Program will be especially important again this year, as COVID-19 will continue to circulate into flu season. Thank you for your interest in the 2022/2023 UIIP and we look forward to your participation.