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6 May 2025

Flu Vaccination Program

From 1 May to 30 June 2025, participating immunisation providers can administer free influenza vaccines to people aged 5 to 64 years who are not otherwise eligible for a vaccine under the National Immunisation Program (NIP).

Why Get Vaccinated?

Influenza is a highly contagious respiratory illness that can lead to life-threatening complications. The peak period for influenza transmission in Western Australia is typically June to September. However, there are already higher than usual influenza cases in WA for this time of year, with 3,442 cases reported up to 12 March 2025.

Where to Get Vaccinated

To access a free flu vaccine in May and June, book an appointment at participating GPs, community pharmacies, Aboriginal Medical Services, nurse practitioner clinics, corporate vaccination service providers, and community health clinics. While the vaccine is free, individual providers may charge a consultation or service fee.

Protect Yourself Against Influenza

To help prevent the spread of influenza, follow these tips:

- Cover coughs and sneezes with your inner elbow
- Wash your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water
- Use hand sanitiser with at least 60% alcohol often
- Clean high contact surfaces such as doorknobs and phones frequently

Feeling Unwell

If you have the flu, you can be infectious from 24 hours before symptoms start until 1 week after they cease. Stay home if you are feeling unwell and keep hydrated. Seek medical attention for severe symptoms.





DFES Staff and Volunteers

DFES staff and volunteers (and their immediate family members who live in the same household) who have received a vaccination on or before 30 April 2025 are able to seek reimbursement from DFES towards the cost of vaccination.

How to Claim Your Reimbursement Staff

A flu vaccination reimbursement of \$25 is available for all DFES staff and immediate family members residing at the same household. Please complete the <u>reimbursement form</u> and forward an electronic copy with evidence of your receipt to DFES Payroll to receive the reimbursement in your pay.

Volunteers

Volunteers that receive a vaccination will also be able to seek a reimbursement of \$25 through their Brigade, Group or Unit (BGU). A copy of your receipt will need to be sent to your BGU so that a collective <u>immunisation expense reimbursement form</u> can be submitted to your DFES Manager.

Note – DFES is unable to reimburse for doctor or nurse consultation fees. Submissions for reimbursements will only be accepted **up until 31 August 2025**.

For more information, please contact Scott Goodin, Physical Wellness Coordinator on scott.goodin@dfes.wa.gov.au

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