

ROY COOPER • Governor KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary MARK BENTON • Deputy Secretary for Health SUSAN KANSAGRA • Assistant Secretary for Public Health Division of Public Health

September 5, 2023

MEMORANDUM

- TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Participants
- FROM: Carrie Blanchard, PharmD, MPH, Immunization Branch Interim Director
- SUBJECT: North Carolina Bridge Access Program

The purpose of this memo is to provide information on the federally funded NC Bridge Access Program, which provides the 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccines at no cost for uninsured and underinsured adults. This program allows providers who see uninsured and underinsured adults 19 years of age and older to continue receiving government-funded COVID-19 vaccine following commercialization.

Providers that serve uninsured and underinsured adults, such as local health departments, federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, and free and charitable clinics should enroll in the Bridge program by completing and submitting a signed agreement as soon as possible, but no later than September 13, 2023. Link to NC Bridge Access Program Survey which includes the Agreement.

Providers must enroll in the NC Bridge Access Program to provide state-supplied vaccines to uninsured/underinsured adults even if you are currently enrolled in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. This program requires a signed NC Bridge Access Agreement linked above. Please submit only one agreement per location.

The NC Bridge Access Program is expected to run through December 2024. Ordering will open after CDC recommendation occurs and the signature of your provider agreement.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the wellbeing and safety of North Carolinians!

In health,

Carris Blanchard Carrie Blanchard

Immunization Branch Interim Director