

State Universal Vaccine Purchasing (SUVP) for Colorado

A Solution for Vaccine Access, Cost Control, and Public Health Preparedness

The Problem:

Vaccines are vital illness prevention tools to keep Colorado communities healthy. Yet many clinics and healthcare sites cannot offer vaccines due to high upfront costs and the administrative burden of stocking and managing inventory.

What is State Universal Vaccine Purchasing (SUVP)?

SUVP is a proven state-level program (already active in 11 states) that purchases all recommended vaccines in bulk and distributes them **free to participating healthcare providers**. Patients receive free vaccines at no cost, paying only the administration fee. The program is funded entirely through assessments on insurers and other payers—**requiring no state tax dollars**.

Key Features:

- Covers all recommended vaccines for children and adults through age 64
 - Integrates with existing federal programs for childhood and adult vaccination
 - Voluntary provider participation
 - Funded by insurance assessments, not taxpayers
 - Delivers immediate cost savings
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\$61 Million Annual Savings for Colorado

SUV reduces costs through:

- Bulk purchasing by the state as single purchaser
 - Eliminating provider financing risks and inventory waste
 - Reducing administrative burden by replacing thousands of individual claims with quarterly assessments
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Benefits Beyond Cost Savings

For Providers:

- Full access to recommended vaccines
- Streamlined ordering and storage through single state system
- Enhanced ability to serve rural and underserved communities

For Patients:

- Improved access to vaccines statewide
- No surprise vaccine charges
- More reliable supply

For Payers:

- Substantial cost reductions through bulk purchasing
 - Simplified billing with quarterly assessments
 - Meets fiduciary duty for cost-effective healthcare
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Addressing Colorado's Vaccine Challenges

With rising costs and uncertainty in federal vaccine policy, Colorado needs a stable, state-managed vaccine solution. SUVP offers:

- **Supply chain security** independent of federal shifts
 - **Cost predictability** for providers and payers
 - **Enhanced preparedness** for public health emergencies
 - **Sustainable funding** model that grows with demand
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How SUVP Works

1. **Governance:** Establishes the Colorado Immunization Funding Association (nonprofit) to manage program
 2. **Funding:** Insurers pay quarterly per-member assessments
 3. **Distribution:** State purchases and distributes vaccines to enrolled providers at no cost
 4. **Oversight:** Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment and Department of Insurance provide regulatory oversight
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Broad-Based Support

Our advocacy has engaged diverse stakeholders across healthcare, most of whom express **strong support for Colorado adopting SUVP**

Next Steps

We are requesting legislative sponsorship to establish Colorado's SUVP program. Draft legislation is available.

About the Colorado Chapter of the American College of Physicians:

Colorado ACP represents 1,400 internal medicine physicians statewide. We specialize in caring for adults with complex medical conditions.

Contact: Colorado Chapter, American College of Physicians

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Learn more: Alaska (akvaccine.org), Rhode Island (rivaccine.org), Vermont (vtvaccine.org)