

COVID-19 PRIMARY CARE VACCINATION SUPPORT PROGRAM GUIDANCE





Contents

COVID-19 Vaccination Home visits and pop-up clinics Program.....	2
Introduction.....	2
Target Population.....	2
Key Dates.....	3
Service Scope.....	3
Part 1 - Establishment Funding.....	4
Part 2 – Vaccine administration funding.....	5
Eligibility.....	5
Workforce.....	5
Community involvement.....	6
Out of scope.....	6
Application Process and Contract.....	6
Requirements.....	7
Reporting.....	7
Payments.....	7
Resources.....	7



COVID-19 Vaccination Home visits and Pop-up clinics Program

Introduction

The program aims to increase COVID-19 vaccination opportunities for vulnerable populations within WA. This program will offer immunisers the opportunity to participate in a targeted program to support vulnerable people who are unable to receive a vaccination through usual channels, this could include housebound individuals or those facing significant challenges in attending alternative vaccination centres or practices during routine business hours. Vulnerable populations in Australia are often disadvantaged when it comes to accessing vaccines and attending a general practice.

We encourage primary care vaccinators to consider the COVID-19 program funding opportunities during flu season for any planned offsite/ after-hours pop-up clinics or home visits where co-administration is encouraged amongst eligible vulnerable populations.

Primary care providers have always been the central point of contact for vaccination in the community. However, several known barriers to General Practice and other primary providers administering vaccinations in the home, or conducting pop-up clinics are evident, including the need for appropriate financial reimbursement and the availability and capacity of a suitably qualified workforce with the necessary program approvals.

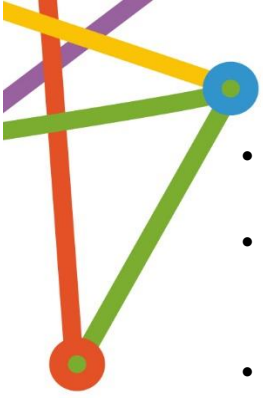
The funding will consist of two components:

- Establishment funds to design and conduct a home visit program or pop-up clinics either off site, or on site outside of the general practice's usual business hours.
- Service funds to complete COVID-19 vaccinations during home visits or pop-up clinics.

Target Population

Vulnerable populations identified by the Australian Government as having difficulty accessing COVID-19 vaccines include:

- homebound individuals (either due to disability or frailty)
- people without access to Medicare



- people in remote and rural areas with limited healthcare options, including those who cannot travel to a regional centre.
- culturally, ethnically, and linguistically diverse people, especially asylum seekers and refugees and those in older age groups who may find it difficult to use other vaccination services.
- aged care and disability workers, with consideration to all auxiliary staff working on-site.
- children aged 5-11 who have complex needs, who are not captured by another suitable vaccination channel.
- those experiencing homelessness.
- any other vulnerable groups identified as requiring dedicated support to access vaccinations.

Key Dates

Activity Period: To 31st December 2024 subject to available funding.

Applications for onboarding to the program close: 1 month before end of activity period i.e. 30 November 2024

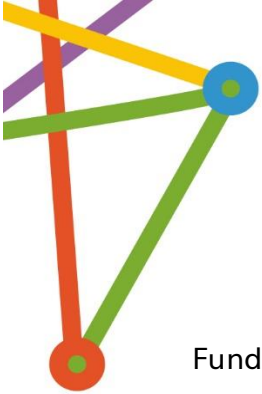
Cut off for payment processes / invoices: 13th December.

Service Scope

This service offers funding for primary care providers to administer COVID-19 vaccinations for vulnerable populations during the transition to business-as-usual vaccination models, whilst also enabling opportunities to establish, test and conduct sustainable models of out-reach COVID-19 vaccination that address these barriers through:

- Appropriate remuneration models that support primary care to ensure homebound and vulnerable individuals receive a timely vaccination.
- Maximising the use of the primary care workforce including general practitioners, nurse practitioners, authorised nurse immunisers and immuniser pharmacists.
- Enabling providers to have appropriate approvals in place to support this model which will benefit a sustainable model following the completion of this funding.

For the avoidance of doubt, patients should not incur any charges for services provided if the provider has received funding from WAPHA under the Primary Care Vaccination Support Program.



Funding is available for (note all values below are GST exclusive):

Part 1 - Establishment Funding

Establishment funding to support COVID-19 vaccination pop-up clinics.

Funding model	Amount	Description	Example
Establishment funding Part 1 – A <i>(Held off-site or outside of usual business hours)</i>	\$500 One off payment per confirmed clinic (Not per home visit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase of minor equipment 	Portable eskies Thermometer Ice packs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase / hire of equipment to conduct pop up clinic. 	Tables, Chairs, Tents & Consumables
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other purchases by negotiation with WAPHA 	
Establishment funding Part 1 – B	\$500 One off payment per confirmed clinic (Not per home visit)	Travel to and from pop up clinics/events (as per ATO travel reimbursement rates)	
		Up-skilling or training staff to support vaccination.	Infection control & Hand Hygiene training
		Administration time	Recalls, AIR uploads. Program Approval Applications, Engagement of short-term administration, clinical or auxiliary staff.
		Local Advertising	Social Media Local newspaper
		Development & Assistance with CALD resourcing and interpreters (if free service isn't available)	CALD printed resources

Part 2 – Vaccine administration funding

Funding to deliver vaccinations at either pop-up clinics or during home visits.

Funding model	Amount	Description	Example
Part 2 – A Pop-up clinic	\$150 Per vaccination	Delivered either on-site after usual business hours, or off site either during or after business hours (<i>outside of usual service delivery arrangements</i>) \$150 is payable per vaccination to a maximum of \$5000 per month.	Pop up clinic on Saturday & Sunday administered total of 25 COVID-19 vaccinations. TOTAL = \$3,750
Part 2 – B Home Visits	\$250 Per home visit	Defined as travelling to the person's usual place of residence (either during or after business hours) \$250 is payable per home visit to a maximum of \$5000 per month.	10 home visits during June where a COVID-19 vaccination was delivered. TOTAL = \$2,500

Eligibility

Assessment, eligibility and planning for a home visit or pop-up clinic is at the discretion of the person providing the vaccination however must be based on need rather than convenience and alignment to the service target population.

Workforce

Home visits or pop-up clinics can only be conducted by:

- general practitioners
- authorised nurse immunisers (subject to program approval)
- immuniser pharmacists (subject to appropriate program approvals).



Community involvement

If WAPHA is approached by Local Government Authorities, community-based organisations, or Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACF) who have identified a need or gap for COVID-19 vaccinations for vulnerable people facing barriers accessing vaccination services, your participation in this program provides consent to WAPHA to share your organisation contact details to link to appropriate services.

Out of scope

Funding cannot be used for the below:

- delivery of COVID-19 vaccination during usual business working hours as per usual service delivery.
- where a patient can attend a vaccine provider
- direct funding to Residential Aged Care Facilities
- establishing a new service delivery model, or a new service outside the scope of the vaccination program offerings.
- reimbursement funding for any Covid-19 vaccinations that have already been claimed through Medicare Benefits Schedule.

Application Process and Contract

Step 1	Check your Eligibility
Step 2	Complete the program onboarding Expression of Interest (EOI) via our online Survey
Step 3	WAPHA will assess your EOI
Step 4	If Successful, WA Primary Health Alliance will provide you with a contract up till 31 st December 2024.
Step 5	You Sign the contract via DocuSign and submit it back to WA Primary Health Alliance
Step 6	Contract is executed and a copy will be sent to you for your records
Step 7	You can then submit requests for <u>up front funding and reimbursement</u> payments to suit intended COVID-19 related activities that align with the guidance up to 31 st December 2024
Step 8	WAPHA will continue to work with you to support on opportunities or vaccination requests that service vulnerable populations.



Requirements

Reporting

Successful organisations will be required to prepare and submit:

- Activity specific reporting on COVID-19 vaccination delivery activities.
 - o 42a report statistics required upon request (*Do not provide any identifiable information*)

Payments

Please ensure to check your ASPIRE details are up to date, if you have not yet registered as a supplier with WAPHA, you can do so [here](#).

All payments will be made directly to the site or business linked to the ABN/CAN that was provided in the WAPHA ASPIRE Portal as part of the GP Grants Program funding activity in 2023. Please [log in to the WAPHA ASPIRE Portal](#) to check your details are still correct.

If your bank details in the WAPHA ASPIRE Portal require updating, please contact Accounts@wapha.org.au

Payments will take 30 business days to be paid.

Resources

[WAPHA's ASPIRE Portal Login](#)

[Practice Assist](#)

[Practice Assist - WAPHA ASPIRE Portal](#)

[Immunisation Handbook - COVID-19](#)

[Services Australia - AIR042A COVID-19 Vaccination report \(E-Learning\)](#)

[RACGP - COVID-19 vaccine Information for GP's](#)

[Past webinar recordings - Immunisation series](#)