



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

DATE: August 27, 2021
TO: COVID-19 and Vaccines For Children Providers
FROM: Adrienne M. Whitney, MPH
Vaccines Procurement and Distribution Manager

Please route to:

- Clinical supervisor
- Medical director
- Clinic manager
- Clinic staff
- Pharmacy staff
- Vaccine staff

SUBJECT: Vaccine Provider Extreme Weather Preparedness 2021

This memo is to remind you to review your vaccine emergency storage plan for all vaccines in your inventory in case of severe weather. In accordance with the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Provider Agreement Emergency Vaccine Management Plan, an emergency vaccine storage plan is required of all VFC and COVID-19 vaccine providers. This pre-planning and action is necessary to ensure proper vaccine storage in the event of a power failure, and you are expected to enact your plan and secure your vaccine if it is expected that your power will be disrupted due to a storm.

Your close attention to this request helps us save millions of dollars in vaccines currently held in statewide provider inventories, in the event of an extreme weather-related emergency. Please help us prevent needless and unsustainable loss of vaccine by detailing a plan for vaccine in your office in the event of a power failure.

Please review step-by-step guidance in the [Immunization Policies and Procedures Manual – Revised August 2020](#) and review: “Procedures for Vaccine Protection/Disaster Preparedness” pp. 184-191, “Policy on Transporting Vaccine” pages 45-47 and the “Policy on Power Outage” pp. 41-42. COVID-19 vaccine providers should also review the CDC’s [Storage and Handling Toolkit for Emergency Vaccine Storage and Handling](#) in advance of extreme weather.

This memorandum should be maintained for future reference and shared with your staff. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your Region’s Immunization Consultant. A listing of the Immunization Consultants by name with contact information is available from the LINKS homepage at <https://lalinks.org/linksweb/main.jsp>.