



NOV 06 2020

Dear Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to provide an update on Indian Health Service (IHS) COVID-19 vaccination planning efforts.

The IHS is releasing the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Vaccination Program Urban Indian Organization Agreement – Vaccines Coordinated through IHS* (enclosed). This Agreement meets the requirements of the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program for Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) that choose to receive vaccine through the IHS. The UIOs that are eligible to execute this Agreement must meet the definition at 25 U.S.C. § 1603(29) and receive funding from the IHS under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCA). The CDC's *COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdiction Operations* explains jurisdictions may reach out to UIOs to determine a preference to receive COVID-19 vaccine, from the state or local jurisdiction, or from the IHS. The CDC Playbook is available on the CDC Web site at: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/downloads/COVID-19-Vaccination-Program-Interim_Playbook.pdf.

The enclosed Agreement includes Section A: *CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Requirements and Legal Agreement* and Section B: *CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Profile Information*. For UIOs that choose to receive vaccine through the IHS, each UIO is required to sign Section A and provide the information for each clinic in Section B. The Agreement also includes program requirements for appropriate vaccine distribution, management, and monitoring. Key elements include CDC and IHS reporting requirements and the flexibility for UIOs to define immunization priority groups that meet the intent of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommendations.

If you choose to receive COVID-19 vaccine from the IHS, please review and sign the enclosed Agreement with Sections A and B completed. **Please send the completed, signed agreement to your IHS Area Vaccine Point of Contact (enclosed) by November 15, 2020.**

Questions or concerns may be directed to your respective IHS Area Director, or to RADM Francis Frazier, Lead, IHS Vaccine Task Force, by telephone at (301) 443-0222.

The IHS will continue to share updates on COVID-19 vaccine planning and distribution when available. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,
/RADM Michael D. Weahkee, MBA, MHA/
Assistant Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service
Director

Enclosures: 1. CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Urban Indian Organization Agreement –
Vaccines Coordinated through IHS
2. IHS Area Vaccine Point of Contact