



Incentives to Recognize Outstanding and Improved Practices

The “I” in AFIX stands for the incentives to motivate providers and practices to improve immunization coverage levels. Making changes and sustaining high immunization coverage levels is not easy. It is important to recognize practices for outstanding and improved immunization rates. The key to this part of the AFIX process is to provide effective motivational rewards for positive change and improvement in immunization services/rates. Incentives promote change and reward achievement. Anecdotally, recognition of accomplishments is a leading incentive for provider behavior change.

There are two types of incentives that can be used – informal and formal. At least two informal incentives should be offered during the feedback session. Informal incentives include providing practices some of the following education materials and opportunities:

- Most recent ACIP Immunization schedule
- Accelerated/catch-up schedule
- Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases* (“The Pink Book”)
- Immunization Record cards for charts
- Immunization Resources list
- Impact SIIS (statewide immunization information system) information
- Maximize Office Based Immunizations (MOBI) information (in-service education program)

If informal incentives are going to be provided at AFIXs, it is recommended that these items be included in the IAP application in the budget section as educational items.

The AFIX Project for Ohio offers formal incentives in the form of annual awards that provide public recognition of high performing and improved practices. There is an alternating award schedule from year to year. Awards will be present at the ImmunizeOhio Statewide Immunization Conference on the years that it takes place (odd year, 2013, 2015, etc.). On the even years, the awards will be presented locally and recognized via a media campaign. Regardless of the year, a letter from the Director of Health is sent to all practices receiving an award. Funding restrictions have caused the award type to change from a plaque to signed certificate from the Director of Health.

The local health department may provide recognition at the local level to providers. The criteria for local recognitions can and should be set by each local health department.

Statewide Award Criteria

The AFIX Project for Ohio will present the following awards annually to recognize outstanding practices, both public and private, throughout the state. In addition, the Project will recognize organizations that sponsor an AFIX Initiative. Local health districts may choose to offer their own incentive awards in addition to the state awards.

In order for a local health district or a practice to be eligible at the state level for an award, the assessment must consist of **at least 25 records** and the “AFIX Project for Ohio” protocol must have been followed.

All awards are considered at the practice and health district level (they are not subdivided into a specific provider or clinic site). Awards will be presented the following year.

Immunization Coverage Excellence Award

2014 awards will be based on 2013 AFIX results and the awards will be given out in this fashion in future years. This is awarded to those practices who achieve a 90% or higher in the Up-to-Date category at 24 months for the 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 HIB and 3 Hepatitis B and 1 Varicella (4:3:1:3:3:1:4) series on the CoCASA report when assessing 24-35 month olds during the appropriate calendar year.

For IAP grantee health districts – A 90% or higher at 24 months in the Up-to-Date category on the CoCASA report when assessing 24-35 month olds must be achieved on CoCASA reports submitted with the IAP end of the year progress report in the appropriate calendar year.

For Private practices, non-IAP grantee health districts, FQHC, RHC, and Other Public practices – A 90% or higher at 24 months in the Up-to-Date category when assessing the 24-35 month olds must be achieved on the January 1 Common Assessment date CoCASA report for the appropriate calendar year.

Immunization Coverage Improvement Award

This is awarded to the most improved practices. An example of how a practice would qualify is to *at least* receive an assessment one or two years prior which demonstrates an increase in rates. The total number of awards is inclusive of both public and private practices. The minimum qualifying criteria for the awards are:

- 1) A rate of 70% or higher for the 4:3:1:3:3:1:4 series in the year.
- 2) A minimum improvement margin of 20% for the AFIX assessed 4:3:1:3:3:1:4 rate from the previous assessment (separated by 2 or more years) 4:3:1:3:3:1:4 rate

For IAP grantee health districts – The rates that will be considered for this award will be the Up-to-Date category at 24 months for the 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 HIB, 3 Hepatitis B, 1 Varicella and 4 PCV (4:3:1:3:3:1:4) series when assessing 24-35 month olds on the end of the year CoCASA report submitted with the IAP progress report. Using this common report, the grantees must fulfill the above stated criteria.

For Private practices, non-IAP grantee health districts, FQHC, RHC, and Other Public practices – The rates that will be considered for this award will be the Up-to-Date category at 24 months

for the 4:3:1:3:3:1:4 series when assessing 24-35 month olds on the January 1 Common Assessment date CoCASA report.