

SB 37 Renewal of Vaccine Assessment Program

SENATE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 6, 2019

Alaska Division of Public Health



SB 37

- Reauthorizes the statewide Alaska Vaccine Assessment Program in the Department of Health and Social Services, scheduled for sunset January 1, 2021.
- Eliminates a temporary phase-in period that ended in 2017.
- Uses the state Vaccine Assessment Account to fully fund the program.
 - No unrestricted general funds are involved.



AS 18.09.200-18.09.990 *Statewide Health Care, Statewide Immunization Program.*

What is the Alaska Vaccine Assessment Program?

Established in 2014, AVAP is a public-private partnership making access to vaccines universal for all Alaskans at no cost to the state.

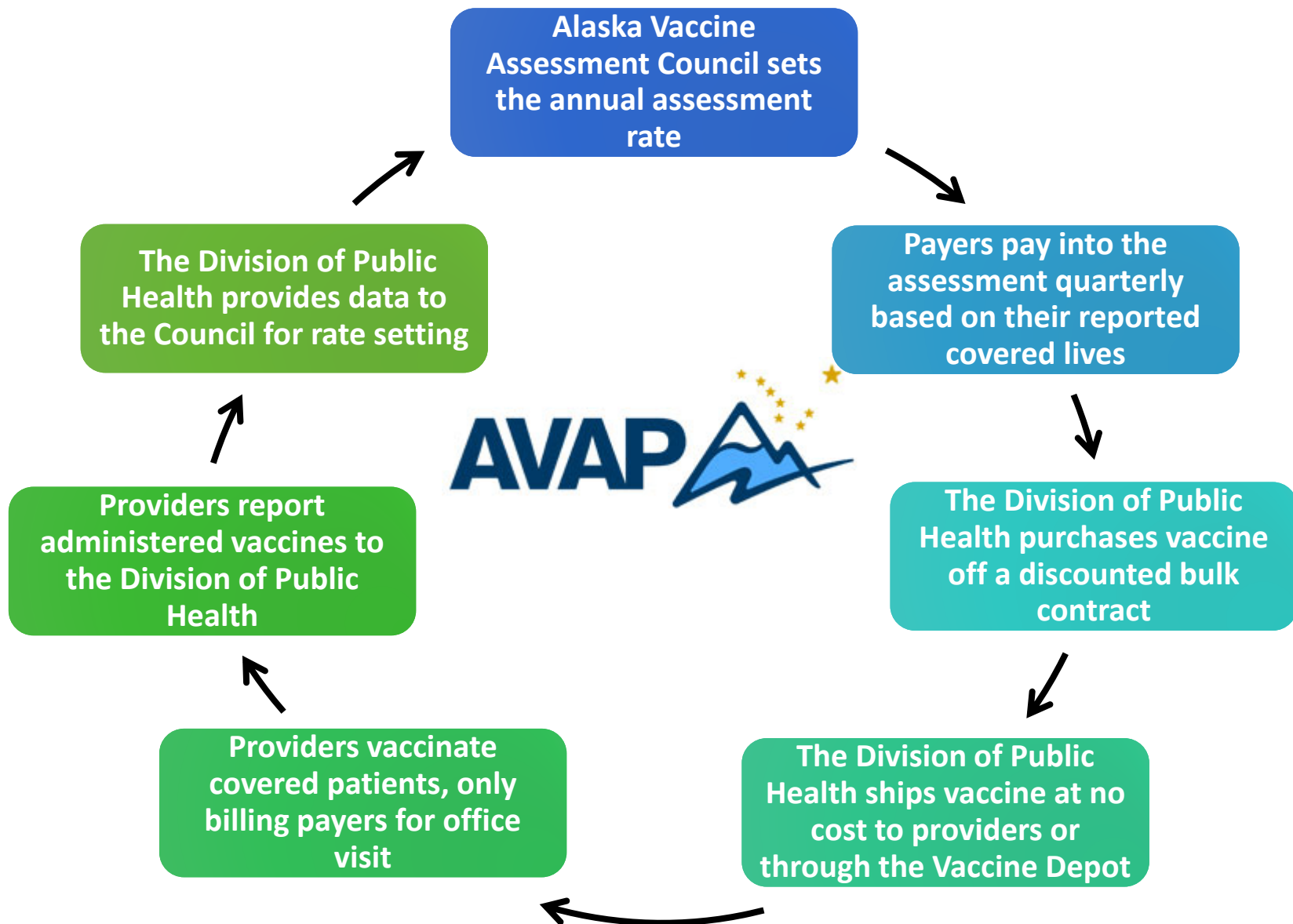
- Provides all childhood and certain adult vaccines for privately insured children and some adults.
- Covers vaccine costs through assessments collected from private health insurers, third party administrators, and other program participants.
- Purchases vaccines at discounted rates off a bulk contract.
- Distributes vaccine directly to healthcare providers at no charge who administer the vaccines to their patients.



What is the Alaska Vaccine Assessment Program?

- Through AVAP, Alaska continues to demonstrate leadership in creating innovative solutions for difficult public health issues.
- Alaska is one of only 11 states that has a universal childhood vaccine program and one of only 3 states that offers adult vaccines.
- Alaska is the only state that offers healthcare providers the option of purchasing state-supplied vaccine to serve uninsured adults.



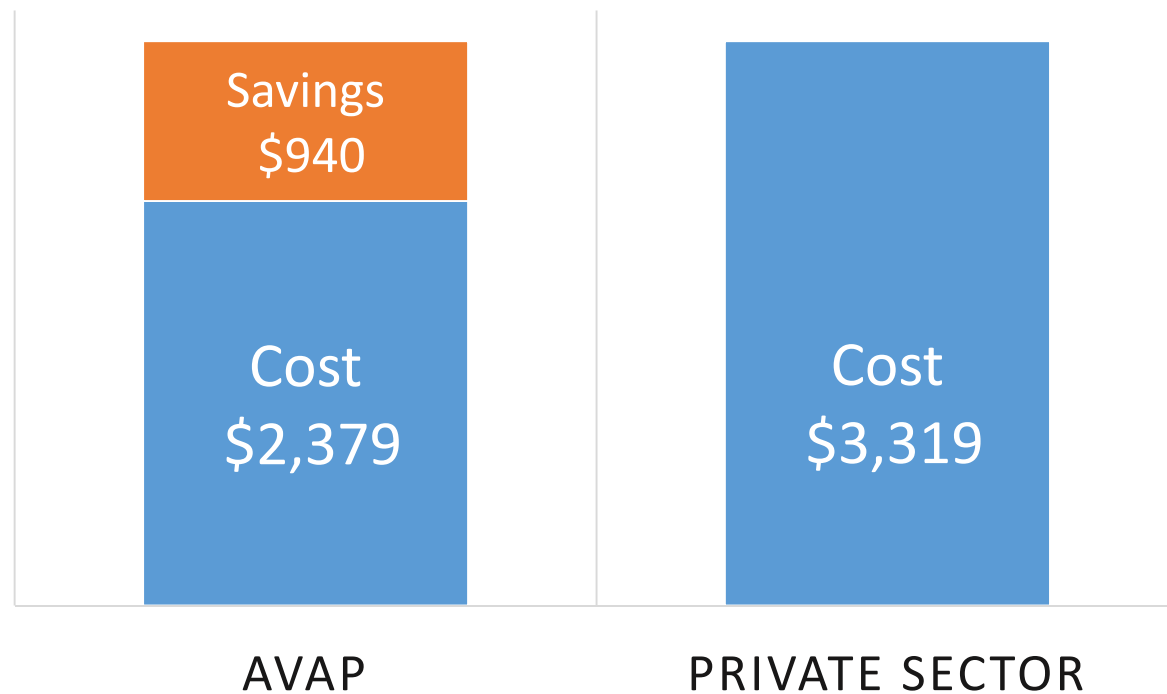


Vaccine Cost



Overall
vaccine
costs
lowered by
20%-30%.

COST TO VACCINATE A PERSON
THROUGH 18 YEARS OF AGE

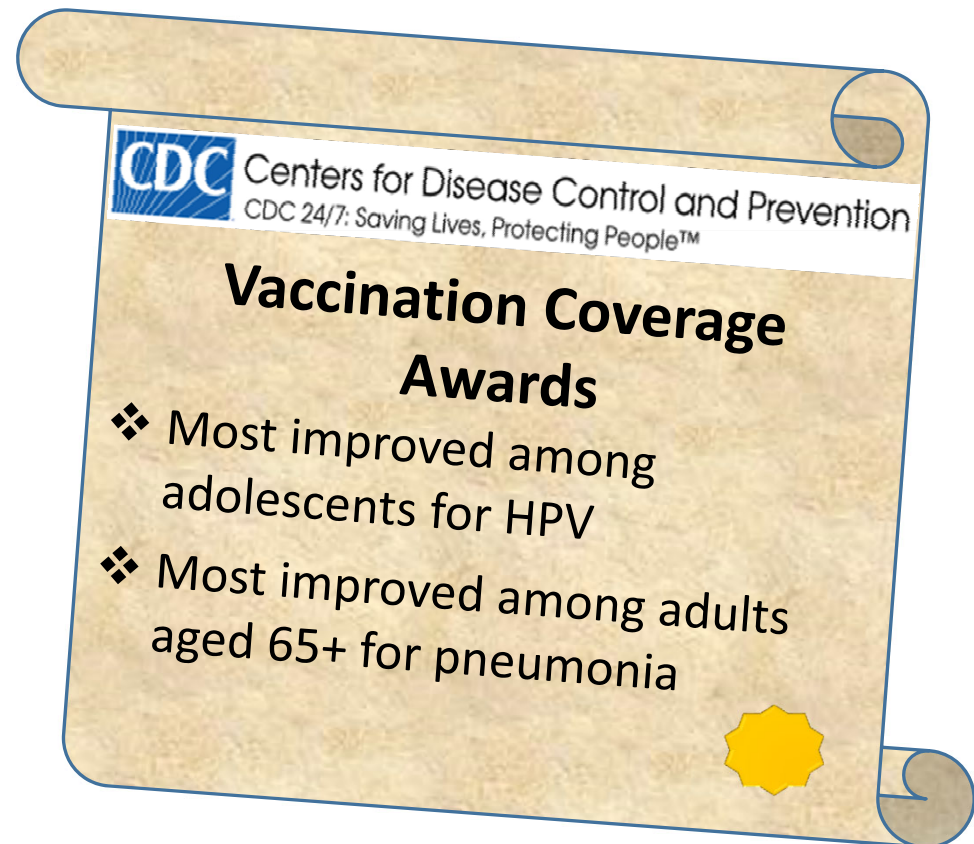


Vaccine Coverage



2018

- **366,000 Alaskans** covered
 - 50% of the population
- **86,000 children**
 - 44% of all children
- **280,000 adults**
 - 52% of all adults



Successes



Win-Win-Win-Win

- The Division of Public Health reduces vaccine preventable diseases.
- Providers have improved health outcomes for vaccinated individuals and easier vaccine stock management.
- The health insurance industry pays less to vaccinate individuals.
- All Alaskans save more money in the long run due to fewer medical costs from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Return on Health



Lowers direct and long-term healthcare costs and yields numerous public health benefits:

- Ensures that every child and some adults who enter a participating doctor's office or hospital can receive recommended vaccines at no cost.
- More healthcare providers can offer vaccination services
 - less up-front costs to finance out of their own pockets for vaccines, and
 - reduces staff burdens required to separate private and public vaccine stock.
- Allows the State to manage the supply of vaccines,
 - ensuring that the state can quickly supply vaccines to vulnerable patient groups during emergencies or vaccine shortages, and
 - reducing waste through centralized inventory management.

For every \$1 spent on a vaccine in the US...

DTaP saves

\$27

(Diphtheria, Tetanus,
and Pertussis)

MMR saves

\$26

(Measles, Mumps,
and Rubella)

Perinatal Hepatitis B

saves

\$14.70

Inactivated Polio

(IPV) saves

\$5.45

Varicella saves

\$2.73



Information from Economic Evaluation of the Routine Childhood Immunization Program in the United States, 2009, Presented at Pediatric Academic Societies' Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, Apr 28-May 1, 2012, Fangjun Zhou, PhD

Image courtesy of Vichaya Kiatying-Angsulee/FreeDigitalPhotos.net

**...with routine vaccination the US
saves \$13.5 billion in direct costs and
\$68.8 billion in societal costs.**

In Closing...



Reauthorizing the Alaska Vaccine Assessment Program ensures a healthier future for all Alaskans at the lowest possible cost.



Thank You

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