

Childhood Immunizations

1. Whatcom County Health Department

Clinic hours:

The health department no longer has a drop-in clinic for immunizations. Appointments are available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

How to make an appointment:

Call 676-4593 to schedule an appointment. Have your immunization record available when you call to help us decide what shots are needed.

Immunizations costs for Children:

There is no charge for routine recommended vaccines, but there is a \$15.00 administration fee per shot. The cost may be lower based on your income. We will not refuse vaccines for your child if you cannot afford to pay the administration fee.

Insurance billing:

The health department bills Medicare, Medicaid and Regence Blue Shield for certain vaccines they give. For other insurances, a receipt is provided for you to send in for reimbursement. Call your insurance company to find out what vaccines are covered.

2. Your Primary Health Care Provider/Clinic:

Vaccines may also be obtained through your primary health care provider offices/locations. Sometimes, vaccines can be received at the clinic/office without a regular appointment with the Health Care Provider (i.e.: some offices schedule nurse visits for vaccinations or schedule same day appointments.) We encourage you to ask your clinic/office receptionist or nurse as to their available options for vaccinations.

*We, at the Ferndale School District, thought this would be a good time to mention a **free community service** that is available to families in our district through the Whatcom Alliance for Healthcare Access (WAHA). If you are uninsured or would like help getting your insurance to pay for medical visits or other health related needs, they have a lot of information on the state and commercial health insurances and can help you navigate the system. They do not sell insurance.*

WAHA is a local nonprofit that can help you:

- ✓ Get health insurance
- ✓ Find a doctor or specialist
- ✓ Get a referral for the kind of care your child needs
- ✓ Learn about programs that can pay for services that your health insurance doesn't cover

To find out more, call 715-6594. WAHA can do an initial screening over the phone in about 5 minutes. Then you choose whether to have information on your best options sent to you by mail or email. WAHA can also make applying for state coverage easier and faster.

We have an interagency agreement with WAHA and you can ask your school office staff to have a WAHA representative to contact you!