

MMCAP Frequently Asked Questions

What is MMCAP?

The Minnesota Multistate Contracting Alliance for Pharmacy (MMCAP) is a free, voluntary group purchasing organization (GPO) for government entities. Run by the State of Minnesota's Department of Administration, MMCAP offers contracts for healthcare products and services. The State of Texas's MMCAP Membership through the Statewide Procurement Division gives us access to competitively bid vaccines and biological products under MMCAP terms and conditions.

If my organization is not a Texas State Agency, are we eligible for MMCAP Membership?

Organizations eligible to purchase from the Texas Statewide Procurement Division (SPD) contracts can become MMCAP members under SPD's umbrella. This includes active members of our Texas SmartBuy Program, formerly the State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program.

Why switch to MMCAP as opposed to re-soliciting Contract 269-M1 (Vaccines, Biologicals)?

MMCAP provides vaccines from contract 269-M1's manufacturers at equivalent, or increased, discount pricing. In addition, MMCAP membership allows Texas Customers to purchase discounted Merck* vaccines, and under some scenarios, Dynavax* products.

*NOTE: While discount pricing for vaccines will be available to all agencies and Texas SmartBuy Members, some individual members cannot access Merck and Dynavax vaccines at discount. This is per each company's individual policy. Per Merck's MMCAP contract policy:

"Notwithstanding the foregoing, in accordance with Vendor's policy, only those facilities wholly owned by the government, i.e., state, city, county, township, etc. will be eligible to participate under this contract. Other entities, such as quasi-political agencies, not-for-profit agencies and non-governmental, private or parochial schools are excluded from contract eligibility. In the event there are changes in the operation of and/or ownership of any of MMCAP Participating Facilities, MMCAP shall advise Vendor immediately."

Why switch to MMCAP as opposed to re-soliciting Contract 269-M2 (Vaccines, Influenza)?

MMCAP provides all flu vaccines on the market at a highly competitive rate. Customers have a choice of directly ordering from influenza vaccine manufacturers and/or distributors. It is possible for these vaccines to become waitlisted or sell out completely, so it is important to reserve your entity's order as soon as possible between January through April in order to ensure delivery between August and October. MMCAP recommends dividing your order equally between manufacturers and distributors in the event there are any shortages or waitlists.

What does my organization need to do?

Texas state agencies and Texas SmartBuy Members need to become MMCAP Members. To join, you will submit an initial MMCAP application and subsequent paperwork for two vendors.

1. Complete the MMCAP application using the instructions provided.
Application questions? Contact MMCAP at 651-201-2420 or MMCAP.membership@state.mn.us
2. Email completed application
To: MMCAP.Texas@cpa.texas.gov
Cc: MMCAP.membership@state.mn.us; william.schneider@state.mn.us
Subject: MMCAP Application – <Your Organization Name>
Please allow 8 working days for approval after completion.
3. Receive a Welcome Letter from MMCAP Membership Services
Further instructions will accompany this letter, including links to the Declaration (Dec) forms and directions to access the MMCAP website. Each vendor’s contract and all ordering contact information is available on the website by selecting the Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Wholesalers or Influenza Vaccine program links.
4. Contact each manufacturer directly to place orders and reference MMCAP membership.

If our organization has multiple delivery points, can we submit one MMCAP application?

SPD recommends that each county/city completes its own application. For other types of Texas SmartBuy Members, SPD recommends a separate application for each shipping address. For entities with one billing address and multiple “ship to” locations, a single MMCAP application can be done. Please contact MMCAP directly for more information.

What if I have additional questions about the MMCAP application?

SPD has prefilled specific sections of the MMCAP application and has provided instructions. For additional application questions, please contact the MMCAP membership line 651-201-2420 or MMCAP.membership@state.mn.us

How does my organization order biological vaccines?

There are two ways to use MMCAP for biological vaccines:

Option 1: Direct-To-Manufacturer Procurements*

Customers order vaccines directly from each manufacturer. The website and customer service numbers are available to set up accounts with each manufacturer on the Smartbuy contract details page. This is similar to the way Texas Customers used contract 269-M1 for Vaccines & Biologicals. Vaccine pricing can be accessed by logging into the MMCAP website, selecting ‘Pharmacy Catalog’. This will prompt you to log in one more time.

Option 2: Procurements through an MMCAP Wholesaler

Customers order all vaccines from Cardinal Health. For the State of Texas, MMCAP recommends using Cardinal Health. While this method offers customers a slight cost advantage, the process is more

complex. Wholesalers offer shareback credits to customers at the end of each year to provide a cost saving benefit to larger customers.

How does my organization order influenza vaccines?

Customers may set up accounts with each manufacturer and/or distributor using the contact information found on the Smartbuy contract details page, and the MMCAP website. Place orders directly through the selected vendor, referencing MMCAP membership. Pre-booking information can be found under the Programs page on the MMCAP website – Select ‘Programs’ at the top of the page, then ‘Influenza Prebooking & Pricing information.’ In order to avoid waitlists or shortages on products, order influenza vaccines between January and April, utilizing a variety of available manufacturers and distributors.

When I become an MMCAP Member, will I get new direct account numbers than when I was using 269-M1 or 269-M2?

No, each entity will keep using current direct account numbers. *Upon placing an initial order, inform the manufacturer of MMCAP membership to confirm that you are receiving MMCAP contract pricing.*

What if I have a problem with a vendor?

Contact CPA’s Statewide Procurement Division representatives or MMCAP representative:

Bradley Payne, SPD Contract Management Team Lead

Kristen Kocurek, SPD Contract Management

MMCAP.Texas@cpa.texas.gov

William Schneider, MMCAP Senior Account Executive, Southern Region

William.Schneider@state.mn.us, www.mmcap.org, 651-201-2420