

# Vaccines for Children (VFC) Eligibility

All children 18 years of age and under, that meet at least one of the following criteria, are eligible for VFC vaccines.

- ✓ **Medicaid Enrolled (M)** - a child who is enrolled in the Medicaid program
- ✓ **Uninsured (NI)** - a child who has no health insurance coverage
- ✓ **American Indian (NA) or Alaskan Native (AN)**- as defined by the Indian Health Services Act
- ✓ **Under-insured (UNIN)** - a child whose health insurance covers only select vaccines or caps the vaccine cost at a certain limit. **Under-insured children are eligible to receive VFC vaccine only at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)\* or Rural Health Clinic (RHC) \*\*.** Additionally, by policy, these children can receive VFC vaccine in West Virginia's local health departments.

\* **FQHC** - A center that provides health care to a medically under-served population may apply to the Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) within the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) for FQHC status. If the application is approved and the health center meets HRSA qualifications, FQHC status is conferred. FQHCs include community and migrant health centers, special health facilities, such as those for the homeless and person with AIDS, that receive grants under the Public Health Services (PHS) Act, and "look alikes" which meet the qualifications, but do not actually receive grant funds. They also include health centers within public housing and Indian health centers. There are about 1,400 designated FQHCs nationwide.

\*\***RHC** - The RHC program was established in 1977. Its' two-fold purpose is to increase access to health care for rural under-served communities and to expand the use of nurse practitioners.