



## Vaccines For Children (VFC) Temperature Monitoring Device Requirements

Routine review and accessibility of temperature data is critical for determining whether vaccine has been properly stored and for assessing viability of vaccine involved in a temperature excursion.

VFC providers must monitor vaccine storage temperatures with a Digital Data Logger (DDL) that has the following required features:

Continuous Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides vaccine temperatures over time</li> <li>• Data can be downloaded and reviewed</li> </ul>
Probe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only use probe bundled with device</li> </ul>
Display	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active temperature display that can be easily read from outside the storage unit</li> <li>• Display of current, minimum, and maximum temperatures</li> </ul>
Alarm Capabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to trigger an alarm. See below.</li> </ul>
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memory stores at least 4,000 readings</li> </ul>
Interval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Device reads and records temperatures and intervals no greater than every 30 minutes</li> </ul>
Certificate of Calibration Testing (Report of Calibration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name of device (optional)</li> <li>• Model number</li> <li>• Serial number</li> <li>• Date of calibration</li> <li>• Measurement results indicate unit passed test</li> </ul>

Additional notes:

- The VFC Program recommends setting the upper and lower alarms of temperature monitoring devices to notify staff *prior* to an excursion occurring so staff can take preventative measures.  
For example, set an upper temperature refrigerator alarm for 45.7°F.
  - At minimum, alarms must be set to alert staff that temperatures have already gone outside of the Centers for Disease Control’s VFC required temperature range. Once temperature is out of range, [temperature excursion actions](#) are required. (Out of range temperatures begin at 46.1°F or 8.1°C and 35.9°F or 1.9°C for refrigerators, and 5.1°F or -14.9°C and -58.1°F or -50.1°C for freezer.)
- Know your device. Vaccine Coordinator and Back-up Vaccine Coordinator must have comprehensive knowledge about the DDL and how it functions. If you are unsure if your device has the required features, contact the device vendor.
- Ensure access. Provide additional staff access to DDL program and/or equipment necessary for downloading and reviewing data.
- Plan for emergencies. Include monitor guidance with your emergency plan and ensure all staff have access to emergency plan.
- Implement a policy to monitor re-calibration/testing dates and submit monitors for testing, re-calibration, or replacement within 2 years of last calibration date.
- Stock and replace batteries as applicable and in accordance with device manufacturer information.