

IMPORTANT: June 11, 2021 CHANGES to the Mandatory Testing for Agricultural Workers Emergency Order

On June 11, 2021 the MI Department of Health and Human Services changed the order that requires mandatory COVID-19 testing for migrant housing camps and agricultural workers. ***This new Order ENDS the requirement to test ag workers/housing residents that have been fully vaccinated and are not exhibiting the principal symptoms of COVID-19.***

Effective June 11, 2021, the order now states:

All agricultural employers, as defined below, with over 20 workers on site at a time (not including the employer's family members) must:

- i. Provide testing for any worker exhibiting the principal symptoms of COVID-19 or who has suspected exposure to COVID-19, regardless of that individual's vaccination status, and
- ii. Provide testing for all new workers prior to beginning work unless they are fully vaccinated and not exhibiting the principal symptoms of COVID-19.

Housing operators must:

- i. Provide testing for any housing resident exhibiting the principal symptoms of COVID-19 or suspected exposure to COVID-19, regardless of that individual's vaccination status.
- ii. Provide testing for all newly arriving residents within 48 hours after arrival unless the resident is fully vaccinated and is not exhibiting the principal symptoms of COVID-19 or has already been tested in the 72 hours before arrival.
- iii. To the greatest extent possible, house newly arriving residents in a separate living unit from current residents for the number of days as directed by the CDC, currently 14 days after arrival, unless they are fully vaccinated.
- iv. If housing in a separate living unit cannot be accomplished, newly arriving residents, regardless of vaccination status, should wear a face mask at all times during the first 14 days after arrival, or the number of days as directed by the CDC if different, including in dwelling units and after work hours, except when eating, drinking, or performing personal hygiene activities or if the resident cannot medically tolerate a face mask.
- v. Provide a second test to newly arriving residents 10 – 14 days after arrival, unless they are fully vaccinated.

Definitions in the June 11, 2021 Order:

– “Employer” means:

1. All employers of migrant agriculture workers, including H-2A workers.
2. All employers of seasonal agriculture workers.
3. All owners and operators of meat, poultry, and egg processing plants.
4. All owners and operators of agricultural operations.

– “Fully vaccinated” means a person who has received their second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) plus at least two weeks or a person who has received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen) plus at least two weeks. Vaccination status can be verified by:

- i. An employer's own record reflecting a resident or worker's receipt of vaccination dose(s) through onsite vaccination events; or
- ii. Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR) or other official immunization record from a local health department, hospital, pharmacy, or health system (including individual doctor's

office) that includes the name, date of birth, medical record number, or other unique identifiers to link the record to the vaccinated resident or worker; or
iii. A resident or worker's presentation of a valid CDC vaccination card.

- “Housing operators” means owners and operators of migrant housing camps licensed by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) under Part 124 of the Public Health Code.
- “Migrant agriculture worker” means an individual who is employed in agricultural employment of a seasonal or other temporary nature, and who is required to be absent overnight from his or her permanent place of residence, including H-2A workers.
- “Newly arriving resident” means persons who arrive to a migrant housing camp for the first time or persons who return to the camp after an absence of over two weeks.
- “On site” means on property owned or operated by an agricultural employer.
- “Seasonal agriculture worker” means an individual who is employed in agricultural employment of a seasonal or other temporary nature and is not required to be absent overnight from his permanent place of residence.

The full Order is attached or can be found by clicking [HERE](#) to view it on the State of MI's website.