COVID-19 Vaccination Plan for Farmworkers



All North Carolina farmworkers are eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations starting March 3. North Carolina's goal is to get farmworkers vaccinated as quickly as possible, but vaccine supply is limited and may not be immediately available in all places.

North Carolina's COVID-19 Farmworker Vaccination Plan relies on local teams of staff from farmworker health clinics, local health departments, NC Cooperative Extension and community health workers to get as many farmworkers vaccinated as quickly as possible. Local teams will reach out to farmworkers, farm labor contractors and farmers to help with getting access to vaccines and COVID-19 education and support. Someone from the local team will contact you soon.

In the meantime, here are some things you can do:

- Talk to your workers about COVID-19 prevention and the importance of the vaccine. Your local farmworker health outreach worker can help with this (see Farmworker Health Clinic Map).
- Create a list with names and dates of birth of farmworkers interested in receiving the vaccine.
- Make sure workers have some form of identification with their first and last names—these can be from their country of origin and are for registration purposes only. No personal information is shared.

Keep practicing the 3 Ws — Wash your hands, wear a mask, wait six feet apart.

- All the vaccines prevent hospitalization and death but are not 100% effective at preventing all COVID-19 infections.
- Farmworkers are still at high risk for infection due to close living and working quarters.
- Practice and promote the 3 Ws— Wash your hands, wear masks, wait six feet apart.
- Isolate and seek testing for farmworkers with COVID-19 symptoms.



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Reduce risk of infection in your camp.

- Test newly arrived workers for COVID-19 on arrival. Isolate any that test positive. Even if asymptomatic, positive workers may not work.
- Quarantine all newly arrived
 workers in groups as small as
 possible for 14 days. Prevent
 contact between newly arrived
 workers and your current workers
 until the end of quarantine. Test all
 workers at the end of quarantine.
- Put workers into living, working and transportation pods to decrease the number of workers exposed when a case occurs.
- Spread workers out in housing as much as possible with as few workers per house as possible.
- Require workers to double mask during transportation and when in contact with people outside of their pod (one surgical mask under a fabric mask or two fabric masks).
- Transport workers seated six feet apart as much as possible, with all windows down.
- Provide outdoor, covered dining facilities since masks must be removed for eating.

- Routinely clean and disinfect hightouch surfaces including within housing and transportation, and shared tools.
- Provide ample handwashing stations to encourage frequent handwashing.
- Improve ventilation in housing as much as possible.
- Place window air conditioners with fresh air intake from outside.
- Run bathroom fans continuously.
- Keep windows and interior doors open in housing for cross-breeze.
- Consider purchasing HEPA air filters for shared living quarters; replace filters regularly.
- Current research indicates that most infections are spread by sharing air with infected people, highlighting the importance of masking, ventilation and putting distance between people.

If you have any questions related to the Vaccine Plan, please email vaccine4farmworkers@dhhs.nc.gov.

