City of Chicago Guidance for Large-Scale Events

Under the Restore Illinois framework for Phase 5, large-scale events are allowed to operate at full capacity. Effective January 3, 2022 any individual age 5 and older will be required to show proof of vaccination to dine indoors, visit gyms, or enjoy entertainment venues where food or drink are being served. Effective August 20, 2021, masks are required in all public indoor settings, regardless of vaccination status.

The City of Chicago strongly recommends event organizers to implement the below health measures when holding large-scale events.

- Comply with the most recent City of Chicago’s COVID-19 guidance.
- Vaccination and Testing
  - For public gatherings and events, it is recommended that event organizers require attendees to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have a negative COVID-19 test taken within 1-3 days prior to attending.
    - It is recommended that all unvaccinated individuals be required to take a COVID-19 test as close to the time of attending as possible.
    - At a minimum, event organizers should require unvaccinated attendees to get tested with a PCR test within 72 hours of attending or a rapid antigen test within 24 hours of attending.
    - If attendees are using a rapid home test, the test should be done on the day of the event.
  - For all gated or ticketed events, and for events with designated entry check points, check documentation of vaccination or negative test status at the entry-point
  - If vaccination or negative test status cannot be checked, CDPH recommends that all attendees, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks whenever social distancing cannot be maintained.
  - Effective January 3, 2022, commercial event and party venues, as well as hotel meeting and event spaces, must comply with the Chicago Vaccine Requirement policy, when food and beverage is served. A covered entity may in the interests of efficiency allow patrons to provide the requisite proof prior to entry, either directly to the covered entity or through an intermediary such as an event planner.
  - Printed or electronic (e.g., through a mobile app) documentation of vaccination cards, vaccination records, or negative COVID-19 test results are acceptable.
  - An individual is fully vaccinated 2 weeks after their second dose of a 2-dose series (i.e., Pfizer or Moderna) or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine (i.e., Johnson & Johnson).
  - For COVID-19 tests
    - The test must be a COVID-19 viral test (PCR or antigen test) with Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- Home tests are acceptable as long as they are viral tests that have received EUA from the FDA and are accompanied by electronic or printed documentation of results.

- Documentation of negative test results must include
  - Type of test
  - Entity issuing the result (e.g., healthcare entity, laboratory, manufacturer)
  - Specimen collection date
  - Information that identifies the person tested (e.g., full name, date of birth)

- Test kits themselves from home tests are not acceptable evidence of negative result
  - Ensure all event staff are well trained to conduct screenings of vaccination and negative test status, including being knowledgeable of what the various forms of documentation may and should look like

- Masking
  - Effective August 20, 2021, for indoor events, masks are required of all attendees, regardless of vaccination status
  - For outdoor events
    - Require masking for any attendees who do not show documentation of full vaccination status
    - If vaccination or negative test status cannot be checked, require masking for all attendees, regardless of vaccination status, whenever social distancing cannot be maintained

- Ensure all event staff are aware of and follow these and other COVID-19 guidelines.