City of Chicago Guidance for Large-Scale Events

Currently, Chicago is in Phase 5, where capacity limits and social distancing requirements are no longer mandatory at most businesses. Effective August 20, 2021, masks are required in all public indoor settings, regardless of vaccination status. Under the Restore Illinois framework for Phase 5, large-scale events are allowed to operate at full capacity. However, the City of Chicago strongly recommends event organizers to implement additional health measures when holding large-scale events as described below. While not mandatory, event organizers are urged to follow these recommendations for the public’s health and safety.

- Comply with the most recent City of Chicago’s COVID-19 guidance
- Require attendees to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have a negative COVID-19 test no more than 72 hours prior to attending
- 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
  - 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 and rapid tests are acceptable as long as they are FDA-EUA approved viral tests 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: full name and date of birth
      - Test kits from home tests are not acceptable evidence of negative result
- 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 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
- Ensure all event staff are aware of and follow these and other COVID-19 guidelines