

It is generally UC ANR's practice not to require proof of COVID-19 vaccination for participation in extension programming. This includes attendance to extension workshops or field days, youth programming, and volunteer meetings or trainings. However, there are some instances, based on local public health requirements, facility operational rules, and situational risk, when it **may** be appropriate to require participants to show proof of vaccination and/or a negative COVID-19 test to access the activity.

Situations where it is appropriate to require proof of COVID-19 vaccination or negative COVID-19 test:

1. When required by local or state public health orders.
2. When required by the facility where the meeting is being held.
3. When the nature of the activity, environment, or other factors create an elevated risk of transmission of COVID-19.

Risk Assessment Considerations:

- Location: Is the activity indoors or outdoors? If indoors, is the space well ventilated? *Outdoors is lower risk.*
- Size: How many people are attending? Is there enough room to allow people to keep distant from others? *Smaller meetings with room for people to remain separated are lower risk.*
- Duration: How long is the meeting? Does the event occur over multiple consecutive days or include overnight accommodations? *Shorter time is lower risk.*
- Frequency: Will the same group be meeting routinely for extended time periods? *Less frequency is lower risk.*
- Local conditions: Is the area experiencing a high transmission rate of COVID-19? *Lower transmission rate is lower risk.*
- Higher risk persons: If an activity has a higher proportion of attendees who are at elevated risk, it may be warranted to require vaccination for increased protection.

In evaluating risk, one should also consider existing safety protocols that apply to the activity, such as symptom screening, wearing of masks, maintaining distance, cleaning, handwashing, etc. See <http://ucanr.edu/COVID19> for general safety standards and [https://safety.ucanr.edu/Programs/emergency/Current Health Alerts/Resuming In-Person Activity 622/Guidance for Statewide Programs/](https://safety.ucanr.edu/Programs/emergency/Current_Health_Alerts/Resuming_In-Person_Activity_622/Guidance_for_Statewide_Programs/) for specific guidance for youth and volunteer programs.

Examples of elevated risk activities where it may be appropriate to require vaccination or a negative test:

- Overnight conferences or events
- Indoor events that are of extended duration (4 hours or more)

The attached Risk Assessment Matrix is intended to help assess conditions when it may be appropriate to request proof of vaccination status or require a negative test.

Documentation:

Whenever possible, a UC employee should be the person to verify COVID-19 vaccination status or negative test results. When required, screening should be a component of the event/activity check-in.

The person verifying vaccination status or negative test results will visually review the provided information, but must not take copies, photos, or other records. The only documentation may be to record that a person was cleared to enter the facility or activity. The information collected must be kept strictly confidential and may not be shared or utilized for any reason other than to determine clearance for entry or participation. Should a vaccination record or test result not meet the timeframe or photo requirements outlined below (see “Vaccination” and “Test”) in-person participation is not allowed.

In some limited cases, such as camps or conferences, it may be necessary to collect vaccination or test records ahead of the event. In these cases, the records may be collected electronically, but all copies must be deleted at the conclusion of the event.

If it is not possible to have an employee present for this role, a volunteer leader may perform this function. All screeners (employees and volunteers) must be trained in the information included in this guidance, including the importance of protecting the privacy of this information. Screeners must not share the information they view with anyone and must not retain copies of any vaccination records or test results. Violations of privacy or confidentiality can be cause for disciplinary action. In the case of a volunteer, this may include removal from UC ANR volunteer service.

Other Definitions and Guidance:

Vaccination: To be fully vaccinated means a person has received at least 2 doses of a 2-dose series (Pfizer or Moderna), or 1 dose of Johnson & Johnson, at least 2 weeks before the event/activity. At this time verification of booster doses is not required for volunteer activities. Guidance for reading and verifying proof of vaccination can be reviewed here:
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/docs/HOO/Proof_vaccine_card.pdf.

Test: May be a laboratory-analyzed test (PCR, etc.) or home/self-administered (antigen) test. A digital copy or photo of test results is sufficient proof of negative test results. If using an at-home test, a photo of a test kit must include the subject’s name and date of test, along with the test card or device.

UC ANR programs may provide additional program-specific clarifying information that supplements this guidance.

Indoor Events Covid-19 Risk Assessment Matrix

