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**DATE:** August 20, 2021, updated January 6, 2022

**TO:** Vendors, Contractors, and Suppliers of the County of Ventura entering health care and congregate settings

**FROM:** Cliff Chroust, Purchasing Agent, County of Ventura

**SUBJECT:** **COVID-19, STATE OF CALIFORNIA PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER ORDER OF JULY 26 AND AUGUST 5 AND DECEMBER 22, 2021 –AMENDED NOTICE TO COUNTY SUPPLIERS**

The County of Ventura remains vigilant and ready to deal with COVID-19. The County is following all relevant federal, state, and municipal guidelines to protect our citizens, staff, and visitors. Everyone who enters any County facility is responsible for helping to prevent and control the spread of the COVID-19 infection.

Pursuant to the State of California Public Health Officer Order of July 26, 2021, County vendors working in health care and congregate settings must provide proof of vaccination or documentation of a negative test within the last 72 hours. Employers must comply with this order by August 23, 2021. You will be required to provide proof or documentation anytime a contractor enters the specific facilities that fall within this order.

The August 5, 2021 order further limits the ability to test in health care settings. According to this order, County vendors working in specific facilities across the County shall be vaccinated (or have a documented exemption) by September 30, 2021. In addition, all vendors, contractors, and suppliers are expected to comply with the guidelines established by the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as updated, to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19.

*The State Public Health Officer of the State of California has ordered, and the County will enforce:*

*All “Workers” who provide services or work in facilities described in subdivision (a) [describes generally as Health Care Facilities] have their first dose of a one-dose regimen or their second dose of a two-dose regimen by September 30, 2021. **The County will begin initial enforcement beginning August 23, 2021.***

*The State Public Health Officer of the State of California Order continues that “Worker” includes “persons not directly involved in patient care, but who could be exposed to infectious agents that can be transmitted in the health care setting (e.g., clerical, dietary,*

*environmental services, laundry, security, engineering and facilities management, administrative, billing, and volunteer personnel).*”

***The December 22, 2021 order makes COVID-19 vaccine booster shots mandatory for all “healthcare workers” effective February 1, 2022 for those who are fully vaccinated and for whom there has been a six month lag since their 2nd and final Moderna/Pfizer vaccine or a two month lag since their J&J vaccine. Workers who are not yet eligible for a booster shot because the appropriate time since their full vaccination has not yet elapsed must receive a booster shot within 15 days after the appropriate time has passed. Medical and Religious exemptions may still be utilized.***

***Workers who have not received a booster shot because of a qualifying exemption or who have because the appropriate time since their full vaccination has not yet elapsed must undergo COVID testing twice per week.***

Workers visiting those County facilities covered by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) order are hereby directed that:

**From August 23 to Before September 30, 2021: *Test results must be carried by an outside vendor Worker demonstrating a recent test or vaccination status*** (must be fully-vaccinated). These results may be presented as printed or digital images shown on a personal device such as a cellphone.

- In office settings require Workers are tested once a week. This includes High-Risk Congregate Settings and Other Health Care Settings.
- In hospital settings Workers must be tested twice a week. This includes Acute Health Care and Long Term Care Settings.

**Beginning September 30, 2021: *Workers in health care settings must be vaccinated or have an exemption on hand to enter facilities*** covered by the August 5<sup>th</sup> CDPH order. Those Workers with an exemption will still be defined as unvaccinated and will be required to continue to do the weekly testing. Those in congregate settings will still fall under the July 26<sup>th</sup> CDPH order.

It continues to be a requirement that everyone must wear a mask while visiting these facilities. All Workers including those from vendors must strictly adhere to current CDPH Masking Guidance, or a higher level of protection based on facility type.

Certain facilities may maintain vendor documentation upon entry or have specific and unique processes for entry.

***By January 7, 2022: Vendors must begin testing employees twice per week who are booster shot eligible, but have not received their booster.***

***By February 1, 2022: Workers must have a booster shot if booster shot eligible.*** *Workers who have not received a booster shot because of a qualifying exemption or who have because the appropriate time since their full vaccination has not yet elapsed must undergo COVID testing twice per week.*

**Examples of County facilities covered by these orders include but are not limited to:**

1. Health Care Agency Locations
  - a. Hospitals
  - b. Doctors' offices
  - c. Clinics
2. Ventura County Sheriff's Department
  - a. Jails
3. Ventura County Probation
  - a. Juvenile Facilities complex

The order specifies the following facilities:

a. Health Care Facilities:

- i. General Acute Care Hospitals
- ii. Skilled Nursing Facilities (including Subacute Facilities)
- iii. Intermediate Care Facilities
- iv. Acute Psychiatric Hospitals
- v. Adult Day Health Care Centers
- vi. Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) and PACE Centers
- vii. Ambulatory Surgery Centers
- viii. Chemical Dependency Recovery Hospitals
- ix. Clinics & Doctor Offices (including behavioral health, surgical)
- x. Congregate Living Health Facilities
- xi. Dialysis Centers
- xii. Hospice Facilities
- xiii. Pediatric Day Health and Respite Care Facilities
- xiv. Residential Substance Use Treatment and Mental Health Treatment Facilities

Please visit <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/> to review the California Department of Public Health orders that establish these requirements.