

[Insert Company Letterhead]

Group 3 Vaccination Eligible
Certification of Essential Worker Status for COVID-19 Vaccination

On January 14, 2021, based on the recommendations of ACIP¹, the CDC¹, CISA², and PPD-21³ the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services adopted a North Carolina-specific vaccine prioritization plan. Included in Group 3 of the North Carolina vaccine prioritization plan were front-line employees in the food and agriculture industry including grocery workers.

Included in North Carolina's Group 3 Category for front-line grocery workers are employees who must report to work and are routinely within six feet of other workers or customers and whose businesses sell food, beverages, or medicine. This would include businesses such as grocery stores, dollar stores, convenience stores, pharmacies, warehouse clubs, supercenters and wine and bottle shops.

Included in North Carolina's Group 3 Category for front-line food and agriculture workers are employees who must report to work and are routinely within six feet of other workers or customers and whose businesses are critical to the food supply chain including restaurant workers and distribution center workers responsible for distributing food and medicine.

This document certifies that the individual identified below and bearing this document is an essential grocery or food and agriculture employee, employed at a business that has been designated as critical infrastructure, the continued operation of which is vital for security, national economic security, national public health, and safety.

Accordingly, pursuant to the CISA Guidance, ACIP and CDC recommendations, and the North Carolina vaccination prioritization plan, this essential grocery worker or food and agriculture sector employee is eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination during Group 3 of the North Carolina vaccine prioritization plan.

Certified by:

[Company representative]
[Name/Title]
[Company address]

Date: _____

[Employee Name]
[Address]

¹ The Center for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") recommends that essential workers, and specifically front-line grocery workers and food and agriculture workers, receive COVID-19 vaccine supplies as part of the Phase 1b of vaccine distribution. The CDC made this recommendation on December 21, 2020, based on recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), an independent panel of medical and public health experts.

² The Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) published guidance (the "CISA Guidance") on August 18, 2020, and updated it on December 16, 2020, identifying food and agriculture employees - including grocery store workers - as Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers whose ability to continue working is critical to the continued viability of the food and agriculture sector and who should maintain normal work patterns.

³ Presidential Policy Directive 21 (PPD-21) designates the food and agriculture sector as a critical infrastructure sector whose assets, systems, and networks are considered so vital that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security, national economic security, national public health, or safety.