

# COVID-19 UPDATE



## PRODUCERS MAY NOW MODIFY EXISTING CFAP 2.0 APPLICATIONS

January 15, 2021-U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced USDA will allow producers to modify existing CFAP 2.0 applications based on updated payment calculations. Producers who already applied for the CFAP 2.0 program and submitted their application by December 11, 2020, may now modify their applications between **January 19 and February 26, 2021**.

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) adjusted the payment calculation to use the producer's eligible 2019 calendar year sales, as well as 2019 crop insurance indemnities, To make modifications to your CFAP 2.0 application, contact your local Farm Service Agency.

[Click Here to Find the Number for your local FSA office](#)

## COVID-19 VACCINE FAQ'S

1. Who will pay for the vaccinations?
  - a. Vaccines are being provided free of charge to all participants.
2. Can a Phase 1B Essential Worker have their immediate family vaccinated?
  - a. No, the Phase 1B is only for the worker employed in agriculture (not their spouse, children, or other family members)
3. How does an ag employee verify their eligibility?
  - a. A paycheck stub, or a letter from an employer verifying they work in the county offering vaccinations and are employed by your farm or agriculture business will suffice.

## **HOUSING FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS WHO HAVE COVID-19**

Housing for the Harvest is a program that offers temporary hotel housing to agricultural workers who need to isolate due to COVID-19. It helps positive or exposed workers protect their loved ones and coworkers by giving them a space to self-isolate.

Participants must meet the below criteria to qualify:

1. Work in California food processing or agriculture
2. Meet FEMA non-congregate sheltering criteria for COVID-19:
  - a. Have tested positive, or
  - b. Been exposed as documented by a public health official or medical health professional
  - c. Be unable to self-isolate at home

How agricultural workers can get a hotel room: contacting the administrator for the specific county

[For More Information on This Program Click Here](#)

## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ISSUES FINAL RULE ON H-2A CHANGES**

The Department of Labor has published a final that will modernize the H-2A agricultural worker program. The rule is available online but will be published to the Federal Register at a later date.

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue stated on January 15, 2021 that the rule will streamline the H-2A application process by mandating electronic filing of job orders and applications, and it adds flexibility to cut down on unnecessary burdens on the agricultural employers using the program. That includes the ability to stagger the entry of workers into the county over a 120-day period and allowing employers to file a single application for different dates instead of multiple applications.

[Click Here for The Rule](#)