



2022 adidas Windy City National Qualifier COVID Updates (as of 1/13/2022):

- At the CURRENT time, the clarification from the city of Chicago, Cook County, & McCormick place is that the Windy City National Qualifier **WILL NOT** have to mandate a vaccination card or proof of negative test.
- For the WCNQ at the current time, no SIT DOWN food will be sold within our event, but grab and go food options will be allowed.
- HOTELS DO NOT need a vaccination card verification to stay at their hotel. We will send out the official statement from the organization once we receive that so EVERYONE can have something in writing.
- Currently the mandate is ONLY in place in Cook County, which the city of Chicago is a part of, no other counties currently have a mandate in place.
- Certain towns within Cook County are not following the mandate and have chosen to stay status quo. If there is an establishment you are interested in visiting but wish to not show proof of vaccination, we recommend calling ahead to the establishment directly for their policies.

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## Frequently Asked Questions Related to Chicago's Vaccine Requirement and McCormick Place

December 23, 2021

### ***Does the vaccination executive order announced by Mayor Lightfoot apply to McCormick Place?***

Yes, it applies to the spaces within McCormick Place that serve food and beverages. The policy does not include walk-up food locations, grab-and-go food stops, or any outdoor areas.

### ***When does it take effect?***

It is effective for all campus restaurants and events involving food starting on January 3.

### ***What exactly does this policy do?***

The vaccination policy requires people over the age of 5 attending any event where food and beverages are being served, and therefore masks are off, must show proof of vaccination and, if over 16, proof of identity.

### ***How will McCormick Place enforce this?***

McCormick Place will require each event to submit a food and beverage vaccination plan, similar to what is required for security. The McCormick Place team will work with the show to ensure that the plan meets the requirements of the City and also that the plan is followed during the event.

### ***Does this apply to the people serving and preparing the food?***

Yes, however, McCormick Place instituted a vaccine policy for our campus employees last fall.

### ***Is there an option for testing instead of the vaccine?***

No, there is not a testing option for attendees unless the attendee has a valid medical or religious exemption. If the attendee has a valid exemption, they can provide proof of a negative COVID test taken within 72 hours.

### ***Does fully vaccinated require a booster shot?***

Not at this time.

### ***My event is later this summer. Does it apply to me? How long is it in effect?***

At this time, we are not sure how long this will be in effect; it will be based on public health conditions.

### ***Is there an exemption for medical or religious exemption?***

Yes, the order does allow for a religious or medical exemption if there is a negative COVID test in the past 72 hours.



***Does this mean my event, by default, now has a vaccine mandate?***

No, it does not. It only applies to the spaces where food and beverages are being served, e.g., a cocktail event or luncheon.

***My event already mandates proof of vaccination. Will we need to check before each meal?***

No, you will not need to check vaccination status twice.

***Can I collect proof of vaccination for attendees before they arrive at McCormick Place, or do we need to check on-site?***

Proof of vaccination can be provided before the event.

***Does this apply to the restaurants on campus?***

Yes, it will apply to campus restaurants and spaces within the convention center that serve food.

***How will this work for grab-and-go options?***

If you are in a restaurant for less than 10 minutes, for example, picking up a cup of coffee, you do not need to show proof of vaccination.

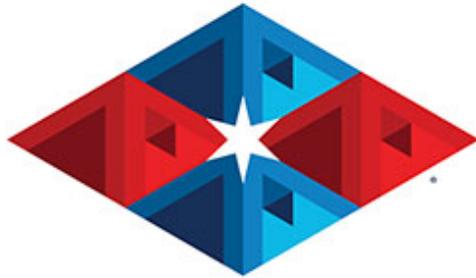
***Is the Wintrust Arena considered to be an entertainment venue? Is the Arie Crown Theater? Does this mean everyone needs to be vaccinated to enter?***

Yes, the Wintrust Arena and Arie Crown Theater are considered to be entertainment venues, and proof of vaccination will be required.

**From:** McCormick Place updates@mccormickplace.com  
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As you may have heard, earlier this week, the City of Chicago instituted Public Health Order No. 2021-2 related to indoor dining and entertainment venues. The order, which takes effect on January 3, requires that a person over the age of 5 attending any event where food and beverages are being served, and therefore masks are off, must show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 and if over 16, proof of identity. This applies to McCormick Place, including the Wintrust Arena, Arie Crown Theater, and hotels. The order was issued in response to the current COVID surge due to the Omicron variant and will be in effect until public health conditions improve.

This order will require individuals to display proof of vaccination to enter areas where food and beverages are served, including banquets, cocktail receptions, and the demarcated areas on the show floor where food is sold for on-site consumption. Each event will need to submit a food and beverage plan outlining the measures that will be taken to comply with the order. This plan will be similar to the security plan you already provide ahead of your event, and your event manager will work with you to develop the food and beverage plan.

We are sure you have many questions about how this will impact your event, and we are working with the Chicago Department of Public Health to address situations that are unique to conventions and meetings. Here is an [FAQ document](#) with some of the questions we have received so far. We will keep you updated as we learn more.

We know that hosting healthy meetings is a critical concern for every event organizer. We are fully committed to the health and safety of all of our visitors, employees, and on-site contractors. Earlier this year, McCormick Place was re-accredited by the Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC). Our entire campus continues to hold GBAC STAR™ accreditation, the gold standard for our industry. Additionally, MPEA/McCormick Place instituted a vaccination policy for MPEA and McCormick Place workers last fall.

Finally, we recognize that the last two years have been exceptionally challenging for the meeting and events industry. We appreciate your partnership and understand that these measures present new challenges and changes. Our team stands with you and will do everything we can to make this as seamless as possible.

Again, thank you for your partnership. We will continue to share updates; however, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. We wish you a healthy and prosperous new year.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,



**Larita Clark**

Chief Executive Officer

Metropolitan Pier & Exposition Authority



**David Causton**

General Manager  
McCormick Place



**James Meyer**

Interim Chief Executive Officer  
Choose Chicago

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