January 20, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

The Illinois Department of Public Health has adopted the guidance for vaccinations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices published by the CDC. Phase 1b of the vaccination plan includes first responders, people over the age of 65, those with underlying conditions, as well as essential workers.

Illinois Executive Order 2020-10 adopted March 20, 2020; Executive Order in Response to Covid-19, outlines essential businesses and operations. Farmers Market are included in the list of essential businesses that sell groceries and medicine.

Farmers market staff and vendors should be considered essential workers and be eligible for vaccination, as supplies allow, in Phase 1B.

Excerpt from Executive Order 2020-10

12. Essential Businesses and Operations. For the purposes of this Executive Order, Essential Businesses and Operations means Healthcare and Public Health Operations, Human Services Operations, Essential Governmental Functions, and Essential Infrastructure, and the following:¹

a. Stores that sell groceries and medicine. Grocery stores, pharmacies, certified farmers’ markets, farm and produce stands, supermarkets, convenience stores, and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of groceries, canned food, dry goods, frozen foods, fresh fruits and vegetables, pet supplies, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and any other household consumer products (such as cleaning and personal care products). This includes stores that sell groceries, medicine, including medication not requiring a medical prescription, and also that sell other non-grocery products, and products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences and Essential Businesses and Operations;

Sincerely,

Janie Maxwell, Executive Director
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