Agricultural Worker Identification, Registration, & Reporting in the UDS Webinar

Presented by:
National Center for Farmworker Health

November 1st, 2023
Learning Objectives

- Differentiate between registration/classification and eligibility.
- Identify industries and tasks that meet the definition of agriculture and should be considered when classifying an Ag worker for UDS reporting.
- Distinguish the different classification types for Ag workers and utilize this knowledge to correctly classify and report Ag worker patients.
The **National Center for Farmworker Health** is a private, not-for-profit organization located in Buda, Texas, whose mission is “To improve the health of farmworker families.”

- Population specific data resources and technical assistance
- Workforce development and training
- Health education resources and program development
- Board Governance training
- Program Management
Ag Worker Access Campaign

A national initiative to increase the number of Migratory & Seasonal Agricultural Workers & their families served in Health Centers.

http://www.ncfh.org/ag-worker-access.html

Increasing Access to Quality Healthcare for America’s Agricultural Workers

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ID & Registration of Special Populations

- Special Populations have been identified due to their limited access to healthcare services.

- Patients considered belonging to a Special Population include:
  - Homeless
  - Migratory and seasonal agricultural workers
  - Veterans
  - Patients served by school-based health centers
  - Patients served at a health center located in or immediately accessible to a public housing site

- Special Populations have unique challenges and barriers in accessing healthcare services.

All health centers report these populations, regardless of whether or not they directly receive special population funding.
UDS – What & Why

**WHAT → Standard mechanism for a health center to report:**
- Number of patients served
- Patient population demographics, such as race, ethnicity, age, income levels, insurance sources
- Services provided, clinical processes and results
- Types of staff employed by health center
- Types of funding and payments received by a health center

**WHY →
To be in COMPLIANCE with the requirements of the federal government**

Accountability and ROI

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Status Verification & Funding

Funding
- Funding corresponds to the # Migratory & Seasonal Agricultural Workers the HC proposes to be served.

Funding Obligations
- Compliance with HRSA program requirements for PHS Section 330.
- Provision of services to eligible population.
- Submission of UDS reports.

Funding Continuation

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Who Reports What & Where?

Health centers that receive section 330(g) funding from the Public Health Service (PHS) Act – Migrant Health Center funding, provide separate totals for migratory and for seasonal agricultural workers on lines 14 and 15.

- For section 330(g) grantees: Lines 14 + 15 = Line 16.
- All other health centers report on Line 16.
Community/Migrant Health Centers can serve anybody, but they must:

1. Determine if a person seeking care at the center is a member of a “special population”
2. Offer sliding fee scale to those who qualify

**Special Population Designation**
- Agricultural workers
- Homeless
- Public housing residents
- School-based wellness centers
- Veterans

**Sliding Fee Scale**

**Verification/Classification vs. Eligibility**

VERIFICATION
To Verify MSAW Status you need to know…

- Definition of agriculture
- Types of industries and tasks in agriculture that are included and excluded under HRSA rules
- Classifications of agricultural workers

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Definition of Agriculture

The term "agriculture" means farming in all its branches, including:

(i) cultivation and tillage of the soil.

(ii) Production, cultivation, growing, and harvesting of any commodity grown on, in, or as an adjunct to or part of a commodity grown in or on, the land.

(iii) Any practice (including preparation and processing for market and delivery to storage or to market or to carriers for transportation to market) performed by a farmer or on a farm incident to or in conjunction with an activity described in clause.

# Classification of Agricultural Workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Migratory</th>
<th>Seasonal</th>
<th>Aged/Disabled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal employment is agriculture</td>
<td>Principal employment is agriculture on a seasonal basis</td>
<td>Former migratory agricultural workers unable to work in agriculture due to age or disability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed within the last twenty-four months</td>
<td>Employed within the last twenty-four months</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish a temporary home for the purposes of working in agriculture</td>
<td>Is not a migratory worker Has not established a temporary home in order to work in agriculture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Workers and their family members receive the same classification.
NAICS Codes

Agriculture means "farming in all its branches as defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)-developed North America Industry Classification System (NAICS) and include migratory and seasonal workers included in the following codes and all sub codes within 111, 112, 1151, and 1152."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>111</th>
<th>Crop Production</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1111</td>
<td>Oilseed and Grain Farming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1112</td>
<td>Vegetable and Melon Farming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1113</td>
<td>Fruit and Tree Nut Farming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1114</td>
<td>Greenhouse, nursery, and floriculture production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1119</td>
<td>Other crop farming, tobacco, cotton, sugarcane, hay, peanuts, sugar beets</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>112</th>
<th>Animal Production and Aquaculture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1121</td>
<td>Cattle Ranching and Farming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1122</td>
<td>Hog and Pig Farming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1123</td>
<td>Poultry and Egg Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1124</td>
<td>Sheep and goat farming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1125</td>
<td>Aquaculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1129</td>
<td>Other animal production, apiculture, horses, fur bearing animals, companion animals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1151</th>
<th>Support Activities for Crop Production</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1152</td>
<td>Support Activities for Animal Production</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
111 Crop Production
1151 Support Activities

Harvesting by machine

Post-harvest, like sorting, packing, processing on farm

And...
- Farm labor contractors and crew leaders
- Soil preparation and cultivation
- Transportation affiliated with the farm

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112
Animal Production & Aquaculture
112
Other Animal Production
1152 Support Activities

- Boarding
- Branding
- Reproductive services (breeding, insemination, semen collection, etc.)
- Livestock spraying, cleaning, etc.
Tasks Performed by Ag Workers

Examples

• Preparation of the soil
• Seeding plants, flowers, grass, trees, vegetables, fruits, and other commodities
• Planting, thinning, growing, irrigating of vegetables & fruits
• Planting, caring, pruning, fertilizing, replacing trees
• Detasseling, collecting, harvesting (corn and other grains)
• Sorting, preparing, processing
• Canning, preserving, packing
• Transporting, storing, distributing
• Catching, preparing, processing aquaculture products
• Feeding, breeding, caring for animals, milking cows

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Excluded Tasks & Industries

- Industry 42447-Meat and meat product merchant wholesalers
- Industry 561730-Landscaping services
- Industry 711219-Spectator Sporting
- Industry 48422-Trucking timber; specialized freight
Ag Worker Verification Process
## Ag Worker Verification Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Establish Occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Determine Time Frame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Determine Migratory Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Determine Seasonal Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Identify Former MAW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Identify all Family Members</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Step 1: Establish Occupation

Verification Question: Have you or anyone in your family worked in agriculture?
Step 2: Determine Time Frame

Verification Question:
Have you or anyone in your family worked in agriculture in the last two years?

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Step 3: Determine Migratory Status

Verification Question: Have you or anyone in your family established a temporary home in order to work in agriculture?

- Establishes a temporary home. (Migratory)
- Does not establish a temporary home. (Seasonal)
Step 4: Determine Seasonal Status

Verification Question: Have you or anyone in your family worked in agriculture on a seasonal basis without having to establish a temporary home?

Do your job, hours, tasks, or income change with the seasons?

Seasonality is not defined in the legislation and is often defined unnecessarily narrowly.

“Seasonal basis” means that the worker’s employment and income may fluctuate with changes in conditions and the kinds of agriculture that they are working in.

*Seasonal Agricultural workers may be employed throughout the year for each crop season and as a result might work “full-time.”

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Step 5: Identify Former MAW

Verification Question:
Have you or anyone in your family stopped migrating to work in agriculture because of a disability or age?

- Former Migratory Worker
- No longer MAW because of age or disability

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Step 6: Identify All Family Members

- All family members of verified agricultural workers are also classified as agricultural workers.

- This is regardless of a family member’s insurance status.

- Family members should be classified as migratory or seasonal, the same as the primary agricultural worker family member.
Case Studies
Case Study 1

Your patient:
Mr. Escobedo, 52 years old

Mr. Escobedo received a contract for work in the U.S. and arrived in South Carolina from Mexico 3 months ago. He lives in employer provided housing with other workers where they harvest melons.

He is at your Health Center because he is out of his blood pressure medication.

Step 1: Establish Occupation
• Is agriculture the principal employment?
• Have you or anyone in your family worked in agriculture?
Case Study 1

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Step 4: Determine Seasonal Status

• Have you or anyone in your family worked in agriculture on a seasonal basis without having to establish a temporary home?
• Do your job, hours, tasks, or income change with the seasons?
Case Study 1

Step 5: Identify Former MAW

• Have you or anyone in your family stopped migrating to work in agriculture because of age or disability?

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Migrant Health

Case Study 1

Mr. Escobedo should be classified as a Migratory Agricultural Worker.
Your patient:
Maia, 8 years old

Maia is at your health center for her back-to-school health screening and vaccinations. Maia’s mom brought her in today, she works at several local farms depending on the crop season. Right now, Maia’s mom is working at a farm where she cleans harvested tomatoes to be transported to the packing facility.
Case Study 2

Your patient:
Maia, 8 years old

Maia is at your health center for her back-to-school health screening and vaccinations. Maia’s mom brought her in today, she works at several local farms depending on the crop season. Right now, Maia’s mom is working at a farm where she cleans harvested tomatoes to be transported to the packing facility.

Step 2: Determine Time Frame
• Have you or anyone in your family worked in agriculture anytime in the last 2 years?
Case Study 2

Your patient:
Maia, 8 years old

Maia is at your health center for her back-to-school health screening and vaccinations. Maia’s mom brought her in today, she works at several local farms depending on the crop season. Right now, Maia’s mom is working at a farm where she cleans harvested tomatoes to be transported to the packing facility.
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Step 5: Identify Former MAW

• Have you or anyone in your family stopped migrating to work in agriculture because of age or disability?
Your patient:
Maia, 8 years old

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Case Study 2

Maia should be classified the same as her mother, a Seasonal Agricultural Worker.
How do I ask the questions?

- Use the **right language** and **easiest terminology**.
- Examples:
  - Have you or a family member worked in any **type of agriculture** in the past 2 years?
  - Have you or a family member **worked in the fields** in the past 2 years?
  - Have you or a family member **worked on a farm** in the past 2 years?
  - **What type of work do you do?**...Then probe.
  - Do you **work in agriculture, like in crops, animal farms**, etc.?
What if the patient is reluctant?

- **Ask** the patient the question **in another way**.
  - **Who** do you work for?
  - What is the **name of the company**?
  - What **type of work** do you do?

- Let them know why **you need to know this information**:
  - We want to be able to **better serve you**.
  - We receive **special funds for agricultural workers**, and we need to keep track of all patients we serve.
  - We have **special programs to assist you**.

*Reiterate that patient information is confidential*
Tips & Strategies

1) Implement policies, procedures and staff training to ensure that staff understand the population and how to accurately identify and register them.
2) Ask the right questions on the registration form and provide assistance.
3) Make sure that all patients, or guardians, are screened for agricultural worker status (and other special populations), regardless of insurance or employment.
4) Verification should be happening at every visit.
5) Have additional tools available at the front desk for registration staff to use, i.e.
   1) List of Ag employers
   2) “Cheat sheet” illustrating common Ag workers tasks
6) Cross reference adult agricultural workers with family members who are patients of the health center in the electronic health record.

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Tools & Resources

- Archived Webinar: Migratory & Seasonal Agricultural Worker Identification, Registration and Reporting in the UDS
- Ag Worker Identification Digital Training Tool -- This 10-minute training video is a perfect introduction to the Ag Worker ID process for new team members, as well as seasoned staff.
- Increase Access to Care (IAC) Q&A Packet -- Frequently Asked Questions and Answers gathered from past IAC workshops, webinars, and trainings.
- Ag Worker Identification Front Office Reference Sheet -- Tool designed to help health center staff ask the right questions to accurately identify, classify and report MSAWs in the UDS.
- Identifying and Reporting H2A Workers in the UDS
What is the IAC Network?
A national network of Health Centers, HC Networks, PCA’s, and C/MHCs across the country working together toward the mutual goal of increasing access to care for Ag workers and their families.

What are they doing?
• IAC Learning collaborative
• Ag Worker Identification & Registration Quarterly Huddles
• Participating in virtual learning sessions
• Migrant Health Action Planning
• Sharing UDS information 2x/year to track outcomes
• Sharing knowledge, tools and resources
Thank you!

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Lisa Miller, MA
Training Services Manager
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NCFH Additional Resources

**COVID-19 Resources for Agricultural Workers and Resources for Health Centers and Farmworker-Serving Organizations**

**Una Voz Para La Salud Call for Health**
- 1 (800) 377-9968
- 1 (737) 414-5121
- WhatsApp

**Regional Stream Forums**
on a year basis (West Coast, East Coast, and Midwest*)

*Hosted by NCFH*
The Farmworker Health Network works cooperatively with HRSA to provide training and technical assistance to over a thousand Community & Migrant Health Centers throughout the U.S.
Sign up for NCFH News

Sign up for Boletín de Sol a Sol Newsletter

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YouTube: National Center for Farmworker Health

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Seminario Web

Identificación, registro y reporte de trabajadores agrícolas en el Sistema Uniforme de Datos (UDS)

Miércoles, 8 de Noviembre | 1pm CT
¡Regístrese hoy!
bit.ly/3tsrpSB

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Agricultural Worker Identification & Registration Huddles!

Join the Increase Access to Care (IAC) program’s quarterly virtual huddles where knowledge meets practical application in an engaging and interactive environment!

- Grow MSAW Identification Skills & Speed
- Reinforce with Real Cases
- Peer-to-Peer Knowledge Exchange
- Customized Learning

**Mark Your Calendars**

Dates: September 28th, 2023
December 7th, 2023
February 8th, 2024
May 9th, 2024

Where: Virtual
Times: 11am-12pm PT
1-2pm CT
2-3pm ET

RSVP: Kadie Koeneman - koeneman@ncfh.org

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NCFH Commemorative Artwork

www.ncfh.org/store/c3/Commemorative_Artwork.html

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Thank you!

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