

# Foreign Labor and Agricultural Outreach Group Agricultural Services Unit

H-2A Roundtable  
June 19-21, 2018

# Roles and Responsibilities

- Provide program guidance and technical assistance to EDD Housing Inspectors, employers and local agencies
- Assign new Housing Inspections to be inspected before occupancy and Follow up inspections at 50% for the EDD Agricultural Business Representatives (ABR)
- Secure a valid Permit to Operate (PTO) issued by Housing and Community Development (HCD) or Local Enforcement Agency (LEA); such as the Department of Environmental Management Department in Napa County. PTOs results are forwarded to DOL Chicago National Processing Center for Certification.

# Roles and Responsibilities

- Primary objective is to ensure housing inspections are completed timely and the capacity is reported to the Chicago National Processing Center (CNPC)
- What is timely?
  - Timely is securing the PTO 32 days before the application start date to avoid delays in the certification.
- EDD will conduct courtesy inspections if HCD or the LEAs are unable to complete an inspection 30 days before the start date. However, the Employer must still secure PTO from HCD or the LEA.

# H-2A Housing Inspections

## **EDD Agricultural Business Representatives:**

- Contact Employers to schedule appointments for a courtesy conditional housing inspection if necessary.
- Complete a follow up housing inspection at the 50% of the contract period to ensure the housing remains in compliance. Primary objective is the health and safety of the guest worker.
- Please note: EDD will only conduct housing inspections that are listed on the ETA 790 application.

# H-2A Housing Inspections

## Housing must be:

- Housing must be inspected and approved before occupancy;
- Provided at no cost to the foreign guest worker. Or available to the U.S. domestic workers who are not reasonably able to return to their permanent residence;
- Reminder: The housing needs to be in compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal housing standards throughout the period of employment.

# H-2A Housing Inspections

## **The employer must:**

- Request a Housing Inspection with the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) or the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) for 5 or more guest workers.
- Submit valid Permit to Operate from HCD/LEA to EDD at least 32 days prior to the date of need to avoid delays in the certification process.

# H-2A Housing Inspections

## The employer must:

- Communicate any changes made to housing arrangements to EDD, and DOL Chicago National Processing Center. You may contact us at:
  - [WSBCalh2a@edd.ca.gov](mailto:WSBCalh2a@edd.ca.gov)
  - [TLC.Chicago@dol.gov](mailto:TLC.Chicago@dol.gov) (help desk)
  - [OFLC.Portal@dol.gov](mailto:OFLC.Portal@dol.gov) (iCERT help desk)
- For additional information or FAQs on the H-2A Program, refer to [www.foreignlaborcert.doleta.gov](http://www.foreignlaborcert.doleta.gov)

# H-2A Housing Best Practices

- Secure housing before submitting the ETA 790 application. Ensure the dwelling is structurally sound and meets local, state, and/or Federal standards.
- File an application requesting a housing inspection to Department of Housing and Community Development or the Local Enforcement Agency prior to submitting ETA 790 application.
- Housing must be adequately equipped for the number of workers requested before prior to occupancy.



# H-2A Housing Best Practices

- Be readily available to schedule housing inspection appointment and/or re-inspection.
- Maintain housing in safe and sanitary condition for the duration of the contract.
- To prevent delays, avoid making amendments to the housing location once the ETA Form 790 application has been accepted.

# Local Enforcement Agencies



## Department of Housing and Community Development

### Employee Housing Program

#### Local Enforcement Agencies

##### CITY OF GONZALES

Thomas Truskowski, Director  
Emergency Services  
147 Fourth Street  
PO Box 647  
Gonzales, CA 93926  
P (831) 675-5000  
F (831) 675-2644

##### MONTEREY

John Ramirez, Director  
Environmental Health  
1270 Natividad Road  
Salinas, CA 93906  
P (831) 755-4539  
F (831) 755-4880

##### NAPA COUNTY

David Morrison, Director  
Department of Environmental Management  
1195 Third Street, Room 210  
Napa, CA 94559  
P (707) 253-4805  
F (707) 253-4545

##### SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Marie Woodin, Director  
Environmental Management Department  
10590 Armstrong Avenue, Suite B  
Mather, CA 95655  
P (916) 875-8444  
F (916) 875-8513

##### SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Linda Turkatte, Director  
Environmental Health Department  
1868 East Hazelton Avenue  
Stockton, CA 95205  
P (209) 468-3912  
F (209) 464-0138

##### SAN MATEO COUNTY

Heather Forshey, Director  
Environmental Health Services  
2000 Alameda de las Pulgas, Ste 100  
San Mateo, CA 94403  
P (650) 372-6244  
F (650) 627-8244

##### SANTA CRUZ

Dr. Arnold Leff, Director  
Environmental Health Services  
701 Ocean Street, Room 312  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
P (831) 454-2022  
F (831) 454-3182

##### STANISLAUS COUNTY

Jami Aggers, Director  
Department of Environmental Resources  
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C  
Modesto, CA 95358-9492  
P (209) 525-6770  
F (209) 525-6774

##### TULARE COUNTY

Reed Schenke, Director  
Resource Management Agency  
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, CA 93277-9394  
P (559) 624-7142  
F (559) 730-2564

# Resources

- Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration  
<http://www.foreignlaborcert.doleta.gov/>
- Employment Development Department  
<http://www.edd.ca.gov/>
- Department of Housing and Community Development  
<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/>

# Contact Us

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