

Vaccination requirements and COVID-19 marshals

Dear colleagues

At 6pm on Friday 29 October, Victoria moved to Phase C of the [Roadmap to Deliver the National Plan](#), in line with the Victorian Government's announcement that our state achieved the 80% double-dose vaccination target ahead of schedule for people aged 16 years and older.

The same settings now apply to both regional Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne.

In Phase C, Victoria's universities, TAFEs and other training and adult education organisations can resume delivering all onsite learning and training activity, provided they meet the vaccination requirements for students and staff as contained in this email.

What this means for you

Student vaccination requirements

From 6pm on Friday 29 October, Victorian students who wish to go onsite for the purpose of receiving higher education services must be fully vaccinated. This applies to all students unless they have evidence of a valid medical exemption, or the higher education services:

- a. cannot be conducted remotely, including attending assessments and classes; or
- b. involve secondary school subjects.

'Higher education services' continue to be defined as educational services provided at or by a university, vocational education and training providers (including registered training organisations), technical and further education (TAFE) institutes, adult community and further education, and other post-compulsory education or training.

This means the following groups are not required to be fully vaccinated to continue attending onsite:

- students who are required to attend for classes, training or assessments that cannot be conducted remotely
- students undertaking secondary school subjects.

All other students, trainees, apprentices and volunteers who want to attend onsite must be able to provide evidence they are fully vaccinated.

Students, trainees, apprentices and volunteers previously permitted to attend placements through the Authorised Provider and Authorised Workers (APAW) list can continue attending placements.

Students attending placements must continue to adhere to the vaccination requirements linked to the work site at which they are doing an in-person apprenticeship, traineeship or placement (for example, healthcare, education and aged care settings).

Staff vaccination requirements

In Phase C of the Roadmap, higher education workers, in line with students, will be able to attend onsite provided they are fully vaccinated or have a medical exemption. Exceptions to this requirement are provided for the following:

- workers providing higher education services that cannot be conducted remotely
- workers involved in the provision of secondary school subjects.

All other higher education workers must be fully vaccinated to attend onsite.

Workers must provide evidence that they:

- had a first dose COVID-19 vaccine by 15 October 2021, or
- had a booking to receive a first dose by 22 October 2021, or
- have a medical exemption evidenced by an authorised medical practitioner. This exemption must be entered onto their Australian Immunisation Register immunisation record (see 'Proof of medical exemption requirement' below for more information).

All higher education workers must be fully vaccinated by the second-dose deadline of Friday 26 November 2021 and provide evidence to their employer that they are fully vaccinated or have a valid medical exemption to work onsite.

This means that any workers who are not fully vaccinated, but who work onsite from 6pm on Friday 29 October (as they meet one of the two exceptions outlined above), will need to be fully vaccinated by Friday 26 November.

Student placements and employment

Students undertaking work placements and/or other employment may be required to be vaccinated, depending on the type of work they are doing and where they are working:

- apprentices and trainees in employment and students in work placements at residential aged care facilities, healthcare facilities, construction sites and education facilities are required to comply with the vaccination requirements in the [Mandatory Vaccination \(Specified Facilities\) Directions](#)
- apprentices, trainees, or volunteers working on other work sites will be required to be vaccinated in accordance with the relevant directions. [No Title]

COVID Check-in Marshals not required

The updated [CHO Open Premises Directions](#) outline that higher education and adult education providers are exempt from the requirement to have a COVID Check-in Marshal at every entrance of their premises. Record-keeping requirements however remain in place, with all attendees required to check in using the Victorian Government QR code system.

Higher education and adult education providers are defined in the Directions as 'pre-registration premises'. Students accessing sites only have to provide evidence of full vaccination (or exemption) once, prior to their first attendance onsite after 6pm on Friday 29 October, unless providers decide to request them to do so each time they attend the premises.

All other patrons attending onsite will need to show evidence they are fully vaccinated (or exempted) each time they enter the premises. Universities, TAFEs and other adult education providers must have a system to collect, record and hold this information.

Proof of medical exemption requirement

From 6pm on Friday 12 November, a person who is exempt from vaccination requirements will need to have an Australian Immunisation Register immunisation medical exemption form that is completed and signed by a medical practitioner, instead of a completed and signed medical certificate.

This means that any employee or student who has already provided evidence of an exemption by way of a medical certificate will need to re-submit proof of their exemption to their adult education provider or their employer by 6pm on Friday 12 November to comply with the new requirement.

More information

For further information on current restrictions, visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au. It is the single destination for all Victorian COVID-19 information and resources, including information about [higher education](#), [TAFE and training providers](#), [apprentices and trainees](#), and [health and wellbeing](#). You can also call the Department of Education and Training COVID-19 hotline on 1800 338 663 from 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 3pm Saturday to Sunday, excluding public holidays.