



Mandatory vaccination – critical businesses worker (No. 2) FAQs

The information in this FAQ addresses questions specific to critical business workers. Refer to the Department of Health's [Mandatory Vaccination FAQ](#) for additional information.

Where can I access the Directions?

The Directions that prevent workers of a critical business from entering or remaining at critical business sites if they have not been vaccinated are available [online](#).

Where can I get vaccinated?

You can get vaccinated at a metropolitan Perth vaccination community clinic or regional vaccination clinic, participating GP or GP respiratory clinic, pharmacy or Aboriginal Medical Service.

You can make a booking or drop-in to a Perth metropolitan vaccination community clinic or regional vaccination clinic. Find your nearest location by visiting www.rollup.wa.gov.au.

Why are critical business workers required to be vaccinated against COVID-19?

Outbreaks in other jurisdictions have highlighted that critical businesses are particularly vulnerable to the spread of COVID-19 infection. However, in the event of community COVID-19 transmission which may require major restrictions be placed on people's movement, critical businesses need to be protected from having to close.

The work of many critical businesses makes it difficult to rely on other COVID-safe measures such as physical distancing, following hygiene measures (such as regular hand washing) and using personal protective equipment (such as masks and eye wear) alone, to prevent the transmission of COVID-19.

If you are a critical business worker, unless you have an exemption, you need to have had your first dose by 1 January 2022 and second dose by 1 February 2022.

What businesses are affected?

Under the [Critical Businesses Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 2\)](#), workers at specific accommodation, hospitality, retail, service or distribution premises which are deemed critical, must be vaccinated in order to enter or remain at those premises.

Critical accommodation premises include:

- Hotels, motels or other accommodation facilities or premises which provide accommodation services (including but not limited to premises available on Airbnb and Stayz)
- Caravan parks or camping grounds (excluding residential areas)

Critical hospitality premises include:

- Restaurants, cafes, fast-food restaurants, pubs, bars and clubs (not including nightclubs)
- Truckstops or roadhouses
- Distilleries, breweries or wineries which provide food

Critical retail, service or distribution premises include:

- Supermarkets, grocery stores, butchers, fruit and vegetable stores or fishmongers
- Retail bakeries
- Bulk food shops
- Health food shops
- Permanent fixture indoor or outdoor markets but only to the extent that they are providing groceries, meat, fruit, vegetables, fish, fresh or prepared food
- The shopfront of banks, credit unions or building societies
- Retail hardware stores
- Food distribution centres (excluding food manufacturers)
- Department stores limited to Big W, Kmart, Target and Officeworks
- Petrol stations (including but not limited to a petrol station that sells groceries or food)
- Veterinary clinics or veterinary hospitals
- Places where funerals, burials, cremations or related activities are performed, including funeral parlours and crematoriums.
- Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited (CBH Group)

I work at a restaurant which only sells takeaway food. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Yes, the requirement to be vaccinated applies to staff working at any premises selling food for consumption onsite, takeaway or a meal service delivery.

I work at a fast-food restaurant. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Yes, the requirement to be vaccinated applies to staff at fast-food restaurants.

I work at an ice-cream/chocolate shop. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Yes, the requirement to be vaccinated applies to staff who work at ice-cream shops or retail shops selling chocolate products.

I have a food van. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Yes, the requirement to be vaccinated applies to those selling food from a vehicle.

I work at a distillery/brewery/winery which only serves alcohol and no food. Do I need to be vaccinated?

While staff working at a distillery/brewery/winery which only serves alcohol are not captured under the [Critical Businesses Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 2\)](#), workers may need to be vaccinated under the [Proof of Vaccination Directions \(No.4\)](#). This applies to staff working at a venue where drinks are provided for consumption at the venue, and not for takeaway consumption.

I work inside a critical hospitality premises, but I'm not part of selling or serving food to the public. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Yes. If you carry out activities or provide goods or services of any kind inside any critical business site more than once a week, or work within 1.5m of other workers, then you must be vaccinated.

I volunteer at a critical business site but I'm not employed or paid by the business. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Yes. The directions apply to any person engaged at a critical business site including volunteers as well as employees.

I work at a retail store which is not listed as a critical retail store. Do I need to be vaccinated?

No, the requirement to be vaccinated under the [Critical Businesses Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 2\)](#) only applies to those working at critical business sites listed in the Directions. This does not include, for example, stores which only sell shoes, makeup, jewellery, clothes or gifts, other than the department stores listed above.

However, you may need to be vaccinated if your retail store is located in a premises captured under the [Proof of Vaccination Directions \(No.4\)](#). For example, at a museum captured by these Directions.

In addition, you may need to be vaccinated to attend work in the event of a lockdown or other similar restrictions. Therefore, you are encouraged to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

If your retail store is located inside an airport terminal or in an Aboriginal community, you may need to be vaccinated based on different Directions, which are available [online](#).

I work at a retail store which is not listed as a critical retail store but sells some food and/or hardware products. Do I need to be vaccinated?

No, the requirement to be vaccinated under the [Critical Businesses Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 2\)](#) only applies to workers at critical retail stores such as supermarkets and grocery stores which predominately sell food, and retail hardware shops which predominately supply construction materials, tools, fittings and other products and equipment for home improvement.

If you work at a retail store, such as a camping equipment, fishing or gift store, which sells food or hardware products, you do not need to be vaccinated under the [Critical Businesses Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Direction \(No 2\)](#).

However, you may need to be vaccinated to attend work in the event of a lockdown or other similar restrictions. Therefore, you are encouraged to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

I work at a bottle shop. Do I need to be vaccinated?

No, bottle shop employees do not need to be vaccinated under the [Critical Businesses Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 2\)](#).

If your bottle shop is attached to a hospitality premises such as a pub, you do not need to be vaccinated provided you do not provide services to the hospitality premises.

I work at a retail shop which is located inside a critical business. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Yes, if you work at a retail shop, for example a florist or a bottle shop, which is situated inside a critical business, for example a supermarket, you are considered to be providing a service to the critical business and you must be vaccinated.

I work at a cinema or theatre which also has a bar which serves drinks and food. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Yes, staff working at cinemas and theatres must be vaccinated under the [Proof of Vaccination Directions \(No.4\)](#).

I work at a weekend market. Do I need to be vaccinated?

Permanent fixture indoor or outdoor markets are captured as a critical business site, but only to the extent that they are providing food such as groceries, meat, fruit, vegetables, fish, fresh or prepared food.

An arts and craft markets, for example, is not considered a critical business site, however, staff working at food stalls will need to be vaccinated.

A weekend market that is set up at or around a local school, for example, is not considered a permanent fixture outdoor market.

However, under the proof of vaccination requirements, if there is a licensed area as part of the market that area will require proof of vaccination for entry which applies to workers.

I work in the head office of an accommodation/hospitality/retail business. Do I need to be vaccinated?

No, the requirement to be vaccinated only applies to staff who attend sites where the critical business service is provided to a customer or patron.

I work at a business which makes ice-cream/cheese/pre-packaged food for other businesses but do not have a retail shop front. Do I need to be vaccinated?

No, the requirement to be vaccinated only applies to critical business premises which prepare food and have a shopfront.

However, if you work as a delivery driver for a business which makes food for other businesses, you may need to be vaccinated as per the *Public and Commercial Transport Workers (Restrictions on Access) Directions (No.2)*, which are available [online](#).

Are shopping centre management staff, such as cleaners and security staff, required to be vaccinated?

A shopping centre is not considered a critical business site. Therefore, unless shopping centre management staff are employed or engaged to provide a service at a critical business site by the owner, occupier, operator or person in charge of the critical business site or one of their subcontractors, they do not need to be vaccinated.

Are tradespersons who provide services at critical business sites required to be vaccinated?

If you are a tradesperson who provides services at critical business sites, you do not need to be vaccinated as long as you do not provide services more than once a week at any critical business site, or come within 1.5 meters of an employee at a critical business site while completing your work.

Do I need to be vaccinated to visit, shop or dine at a critical business?

Some critical business sites require proof of vaccination for patrons under the [Proof of Vaccination Directions \(No.4\)](#).

Pubs, clubs, bars and taverns must request proof of vaccination from patrons.

Restaurants and cafes providing food or drink for dine-in consumption (excluding food courts or outdoor food or drink truck or cart) must also request proof of vaccination from patrons.

Are large scale production facilities considered critical businesses?

No, large scale production facilities which prepare food for supermarkets or other businesses are not considered critical businesses under the Directions.

Are pool shops which assist with managing the maintenance of swimming pools, spas and other artificial bodies of water considered critical businesses?

No, pool shops, including those which sell chemicals for pool maintenance, are not considered critical businesses under these Directions.

I have a temporary exemption from the Office of the Chief Health Officer for work. Can I use this exemption to enter a critical business venue which is requiring proof of vaccination?

No, a temporary exemption issued by the Office of the Chief Health Officer is a specific exemption to allow you to continue working, and only applies to the specific Directions it was issued under.

The Office of the Chief Health Officer cannot issue temporary exemptions under the Proof of Vaccination Directions, which require proof of vaccination to be shown at certain venues listed on the WA Government website.

Under the [Proof of Vaccination Directions \(No.4\)](#), the only accepted proof of vaccination exemption is a medical exemption.

More information on providing proof of vaccination, including the medical exemption process, is available on the [WA Government](#) website.

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This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

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