



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Health**

# SHICC PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN #9

**Thursday, 27 January 2022 16:00 Hours**

This bulletin has been authorised by the **A/Deputy Incident Controller – Public Health, Dr Tania Wallace**

## COVID-19 case and vaccination numbers

- **Summary:** as of **Thursday, 27 January**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
  - **1,454** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
  - **141** historical cases of COVID-19 notified
  - **1,314** people recovered from COVID-19
  - **2,231,286** COVID-19 tests conducted
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot & Vaccination dashboard](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status & Australia's vaccine roll-out](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports & WHO Dashboard](#)

## Living with COVID

### Chief Health Officer advice

The latest advice from the Chief Health Officer is available [here](#).

- [Controlled Border Transition Arrangements – 19 January 2022](#)
- [Proof of Vaccination Requirements – 15 January 2022](#)

### Public health advice for Western Australians

Everyone is encouraged to check the [exposure sites](#) page regularly for updates.

Anyone experiencing COVID-19 [symptoms](#) should get tested immediately and isolate until they receive a negative result, unless directly advised otherwise by the Department of Health. This is particularly pertinent to the Perth region, those in the South West, including the greater Bunbury area, and Wheatbelt regions. Everyone who is symptomatic should get tested, even if you have not visited a listed exposure site.

Anyone who has attended an [exposure site](#) should follow the correlating health advice, unless directly advised otherwise by the Department of Health. The list should be checked frequently, as exposure sites are likely to be updated or added to regularly. There is now community transmission of COVID - 19 and people should not rely only on the exposure sites listed on the [HealthyWA website](#) to consider testing if symptomatic.

Western Australians are encouraged to stay vigilant and use SafeWA/ServiceWA and mandatory contact registers to check into businesses and venues.

For information on public health measures including mask wearing and proof of vaccination, see the [announcement](#). More information is also available in the [media statement](#).

## New Safe Return to School Plan

The WA Government announced the new Safe Return to School Plan, outlining the public health and social measures to be in place for the start of the public and non-government 2022 school year.

WA's Safe Return to School Plan includes:

- a ventilation strategy
- CO2 monitors
- enhanced cleaning of surfaces
- mask-wearing for school staff and secondary students
- vaccinations as mandated for staff and regular visitors, and students are encouraged to be vaccinated as soon as possible
- making hand sanitiser and face masks available
- physical distancing of staff and other adults, where possible
- learning contingency plans for remote learning
- arrangements to temporarily replace teachers and other school staff who are required to isolate due to COVID-19.

Further information is available in the [announcement](#).

## New information on HealthyWA

The WA Department of Health continues to develop information material to ensure the WA public can continue to access critical health advice relevant to the current situation.

The [website](#) now has information on managing COVID-19 at home and in the community, which will continue to be refined as the situation evolves. You are encouraged to check back here regularly for updates.

## Face mask requirements

Based on the latest public health advice, face masks are required in Perth, Peel and the South West region:

- at all public indoor settings
- in all vehicles unless the person is travelling alone or with members of the same household
- at residential aged or disability care facilities, both indoors and outdoors
- at a hospital.

This requirement is also in place for the Wheatbelt and Great Southern region as at 6:00pm Thursday, 27 January 2022.

Anyone who has been in the Perth or Peel region since Thursday, 6 January 2022 and/or the South West since Wednesday, 12 January 2022, must also follow the mask requirements for two weeks after leaving the regions. **The requirement is in place for anyone who has been in the Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions since 20 January 2022 and has since travelled to another region that is not affected by mask requirements.**

Face mask requirement [exemptions](#) apply. More information is available in the [Wheatbelt and Great Southern](#), [Perth and Peel](#) and [South West](#) region announcements.

## Changes to hotel quarantine requirements

Based on the latest public health advice, the WA Government announced on 13 January 2022 new state supervised hotel quarantine requirements for international and domestic arrivals from 'extreme risk' jurisdictions.

Double dose vaccinated travellers who test negative for COVID-19 in hotel quarantine will be able to move to self-quarantine on day eight to complete their 14-days' quarantine in self-quarantine at a suitable premise. Travellers complete additional PCR testing and [G2G Now](#) monitoring. Household members of the person in self-quarantine are subject to the same requirements.

Further information is available on the WA Government [website](#) and in the [media release](#).

## Jurisdiction risk rating

Western Australia has now classified all Australian jurisdictions as 'extreme risk'. The Northern Territory (NT) transitioned to an 'extreme risk' jurisdiction from 12:01am, Thursday, 13 January 2022.

Travel from all jurisdictions into WA is not permitted unless approved under the strictest of conditions.

Entry requirements from 'extreme risk' jurisdictions are available on [WA.gov.au](#).

The WA Chief Health Officer continues to monitor and review border controls.

## Community

### Small Business Assistance Grant

Applications for financial support are now open for certain businesses and sole traders in the events and hospitality sectors directly affected by the necessary public health measures in Perth and Peel from 23 December 2021 to 4 January 2022.

More information is available in the [media release](#), at the Small Business Development Corporation [website](#). Information on the *Getting the Show Back on the Road* and the *Night Club Closures One Off Grants* programs are available on [WA.gov.au](#).

### ServiceWA app

The WA Government has released the free application ServiceWA ahead of WA's Safe Transition.

The app enables users to:

- show proof of COVID-19 vaccination
- check-in at businesses and venues
- access G2G Pass applications for interstate travel.

Additionally, important COVID-19 information is available, including how to [prepare](#) your household for COVID-19, [how to care for yourself and others](#), where to get [tested](#), where to get [vaccinated](#) and public [exposure locations](#).

More information is available at the WA Government [website](#) and in the [media release](#).

### Proof of vaccination requirements

Proof of vaccination requirements are in place for the following venues in Perth and Peel:

- Nightclubs
- Music festivals and major events (above 500 people)
- Pubs, taverns, hotels (hospitality) and Special Facility Licences with a capacity of more than 500 people or these specific licensed venues that trade after midnight
- Events with an Occasional Liquor Licence
- The Crown gaming floor.

The WA Government announced on 13 January 2022 that proof of vaccination requirements will extend to venues and events state-wide. From Monday, 31 January 2022, proof of vaccination for people 16 years and older is required for:

- visitors to public and private hospitals, and residential aged care facilities

- all hospitality and food and licensed venues, excluding food and non-alcoholic beverage takeaway, roadhouses, and service stations
- bottle shops
- indoor entertainment venues, including play centres, gaming and gambling, theatres, concert halls, museums, cinemas and live music venues, including the Perth Convention Centre
- nightclubs
- the Crown Perth complex
- major stadiums
- gyms, fitness studios and centres
- amusement parks and Perth Zoo
- music festivals and large events with more than 500 people, unless exempt.

More information on proof of vaccination venue and event inclusion and exclusion is available in the [announcement](#).

People will be required to show proof of their COVID-19 vaccination, either in a digital or paper-based form, along with approved identification. See the [Proof of COVID-19 vaccinations](#) page for more information.

The WA Government has released social media tiles and posters to help businesses communicate the proof of [vaccination requirements](#).

Both venues and patrons will have a shared responsibility when it comes to proof of vaccination, with venues required to take reasonable steps to ensure all patrons are double dose vaccinated, or exempt.

## Mandatory vaccination FAQs

Frequently asked questions (FAQs) about mandatory COVID-19 vaccination are available at the Department of Health [website](#) to address common queries relevant to all people affected by the vaccination requirement. In consultation with stakeholders, industry-specific FAQs are in development to provide more nuanced advice for different sectors. **Critical business worker [FAQs](#) are available.**

All mandatory vaccination [Directions](#) (and supporting documents) are published on the WA.gov.au website and the general mandatory COVID-19 vaccination [FAQs](#) which continue to be updated, are on the Department of Health website.

## COVID-19 vaccination program

### Novavax approved by ATAGI

On 24 January 2022, the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommended that [Novavax](#) COVID-19 vaccine can be used for the primary course of COVID-19 vaccination in people aged 18 years or older. The recommended schedule for administration is 2 doses, a minimum of 3 weeks apart.

This followed the Therapeutic Goods Administration ([TGA](#)) granting of provisional approval on 20 January 2022 to Bioclect Pty Ltd (on behalf of Novavax Inc) for the COVID-19 vaccine. The Australian Government has ordered 51 million doses and has plans to distribute the vaccine by the end of February.

### Third dose for severely immunocompromised 5 to 11-year-old children

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) provided an [update](#) on 17 January 2022 recommending that severely immunocompromised children aged 5 to 11 years receive a third primary dose of COVID-19 vaccine, 2 to 4 months after their second dose. This is in line with other severely immunocompromised age cohorts. The ATAGI [recommendations](#) provide further information and the list of conditions requiring a third dose. The requirement of a third dose in children should be discussed with your GP or treating specialist in the first instance.

## TGA recognises Sputnik V for travel

On the 17 January 2022, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) [announced](#) the two-dose course of the Gamaleya Institute vaccine (Sputnik V, Russian Federation) would be 'recognised' for the purpose of establishing a traveller's vaccination status to Australia.

## Community vaccination clinics

Please check the community vaccination clinic list [online](#) for further information and opening times. To avoid extended queues, people are encouraged to make a booking at [VaccinateWA](#) or 13COVID, as people with bookings will be prioritised.

There will be numerous regional pop-up clinics available for walk-ins in the coming weeks. Visit the [COVID-19 vaccine](#) webpage for a list of these clinics and their opening times.

Existing [Community vaccination clinics](#) in WA include Armadale, Mirrabooka, Carramar, Mandurah, Canning Vale, Midland, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Claremont Showgrounds, Joondalup, Kwinana, and Bunbury.

Vaccination clinic changes:

- Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre (PCEC): A pop-up clinic has been operating from the concourse area at PCEC. From Wednesday, 19 January 2022, a longer-term clinic will be operating at PCEC in Pavilion 6.
- Claremont Showgrounds: The vaccination clinic is now at the Jim Webster Pavilion with entry through Gate 8 off Ashton Avenue. The closest train station is Loch Street. Onsite parking is also available.
- Joondalup: The new clinic is off Joondalup Drive on the western side of the shopping centre, with access from the outside of the centre.

The Comirnaty (Pfizer), Spikevax (Moderna) and Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca) COVID-19 vaccines are being administered at participating GPs and pharmacies for eligible populations. Participating GPs and pharmacies can be found by using the COVID-19 [Vaccine Clinic Finder](#).

## Vaccine information and resources

Please visit the sources below for more information and resources related to vaccines:

- HealthyWA – [COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (for WA community) including [FAQs](#)
- WA Health – [COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#) (for WA health providers)
- Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) – workplace [information](#) about the COVID-19 vaccine FAQs (general information for businesses and employers)
- The Australian Government – [COVID-19 Vaccines hub](#)
- [Roll up for WA](#) and [Roll up for WA posters](#)
- KAMS – [Get vaccinated against COVID-19 TVC Campaign](#)

## Directions updates

COVID-19 State of Emergency [Declarations](#) and community [advice](#) summarises the latest COVID-19 Directions that are in place in WA. Further information can be found on WA Government [website](#).

### New Directions

- [COVID Transition \(Border Requirements\) Directions](#)
- [Proof of Vaccination Directions](#)
- [Australia Day \(Face Mask\) Directions](#)
- [Health Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 4\)](#)
- [Primary Health Care Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 2\)](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 62\)](#)

- [DFES \(Fire Season\) Firefighting Crew Directions \(No 2\)](#)
- [Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 20\)](#)
- [Presentation for Testing Directions \(No 38\)](#)
- [COVID Restrictions \(Gatherings and Related Measures\) Directions \(No 10\)](#)
- [Air North \(Crew and Engineer\) Directions](#)
- [COVID Restrictions \(Adapted Household Contacts Quarantine and Presentation for Testing\) Directions](#)
- [Entry by Approved Border Community Residents and Workers Directions](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 61\)](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 60\)](#)

## Updated fact sheets

- [Clinician Alert #79](#)
- [COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control in Western Australian Healthcare Facilities – Version 12](#)
- [Clinician Alert #78](#)
- [Infection prevention and control guidelines for flight crew attending mandatory aviation training](#)
- [COVID-19 preparation and response guidelines for early childcare services](#)
- [Information for Quarantine Centre Workers](#)
- [Information for Quarantine Centre Workers - Updated 10 January 2022](#)
- [Outbreak Preparedness and Initial Local Response in Remote Aboriginal Communities Version 3 January 2022](#)
- [Aboriginal Sector Communication Update #33](#)
- [Mandatory Vaccination – Critical Businesses Worker FAQs \(New\)](#)
- [Mandatory Vaccination FAQs Version 5](#)
- [COVID-19 Preparation and Response Guidelines for Office Settings Version 2](#)
- [Clinician Alert #77](#)
- [Clinician Alert #76](#)
- [Testing Criteria for SARS-CoV-2 in Western Australia #34 – Updated 11 January 2022](#)
- [Release from Isolation Information for all Clinicians – Updated 10 January 2022](#)
- [COVID-19 Preparation and Response Guidelines for Congregate Living Settings Version 2](#)
- [First 24 Hours of an Outbreak in a Congregate Living Facility](#)
- [COVID-19 Congregate Living Documents Required for Submission to DOH in Event of an Outbreak](#)

## Testing

### General population [testing criteria](#)

Any person may be tested if they have any one of the following clinical criteria: fever ( $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) OR history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills), without a known source **OR** acute respiratory symptoms (e.g. shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, runny nose) **OR** acute loss of smell or taste **OR** a positive or inconclusive rapid antigen test result.

Refer to the *Testing Criteria for SARS-CoV-2 in Western Australia #34*, [published](#) on the Department of Health [website](#), for further information.

### Testing locations

Testing locations are listed on [HealthyWA](#).

## Reporting

Notify suspected COVID-19 cases by completing the notification form either [ONLINE](#) or by printing out the notification form.

## Series of National Guidelines (SoNG)

The [latest](#) iteration was released on 14 January 2022.

## Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)

The [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\)](#) is the key decision-making committee for health emergencies. It is comprised of all state and territory Chief Health Officers and is chaired by the Australian Chief Medical Officer. The AHPPC has an ongoing role to advise the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) on health protection matters and national priorities. AHPPC is also tasked with the role of mitigating emerging health threats related to infectious diseases, the environment as well as natural and human made disasters. AHPPC has recently released the following statement:

- [20 January](#) – **Statement on rapid antigen testing for current high community prevalence environment**
- [13 January](#) – Permissions and restrictions for essential workers – interim guidance
- [10 January](#) – AHPPC interim guidance on permissions and restrictions for workers in food and grocery supply

## Business and industry

### Resources for more information

- [WA Department of Health and HealthyWA](#)
- [Department of Health Media Releases](#)
- [Australian Government Health Department](#)
- [Advice for the public \(WHO\)](#)
- [Advice in other languages](#) and [Translated Resources](#)
- [Advice for Aboriginal people](#)
- [Covid Clinic walkthrough](#) – in multiple languages
- [Contact register](#) information
- [SafeWA user guide](#)
- [Mandatory vaccination](#) Directions and supporting documents
- [Mandatory vaccination](#) general and industry-specific [FAQs](#)

## More information

- COVID-19 Clinic ONLY Test Results Enquiry Line: 1800 313 223 (Note: NOT for GP referred testing or private pathology clinic tests)
- COVID-19 WA Public Information Line: 132 6843 (13 COVID)
- COVID-19 Travel Restrictions Exemption Application: Visit the [G2G PASS](#) website
- COVID-19 WA Police Line: 131 444 To report breaches of: self-quarantine, business activities, border controls and other State of Emergency Directions

**Next advice** – The Bulletin is issued weekly. Next issue: **1 February 2022**.

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

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