



Mandatory vaccination – meat industry workers FAQs

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

Where can I access the Directions?

The Directions that prevent meat industry workers from entering or remaining at meat industry 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 meat industry workers required to be vaccinated against COVID-19?

Working at a meat processing facility may present you with a higher risk of catching or spreading COVID-19 due to working on a production line near others and difficulty in following hygiene measures (such as regular hand washing), as well as the temperature and humidity of the facility. Even if you wear personal protective equipment (such as masks and eye wear) and keep a physical distance between you and other workers, there is still a risk of COVID-19 transmission between you and your colleagues, due to the unique environment of a meat processing facility.

Unless you have an exemption, you need to have had your first dose by 1 December 2021 and second dose by 1 January 2022.

Which meat industries are affected?

Mandatory vaccination applies to workers in meat industries including beef, lamb, pork, goat, venison and poultry. It does not apply to the seafood industry.

Are administrative and ancillary staff required to be vaccinated?

Yes, the requirement to be vaccinated applies to all people who carry out activities or provide goods or services at meat industry sites. This includes administrative and reception staff, cleaners, security officers and maintenance staff.

Are volunteers, apprentices, trainees or those on work experience required to be vaccinated?

Yes, the requirement to be vaccinated applies to all people who carry out activities or provide goods or services at meat industry sites. This includes volunteers, trainees or those on work experience.

Are staff who work from home, or at an offsite office, required to be vaccinated?

No, only employees who attend the meat industry site, including abattoirs and processing works, are required to be vaccinated to work.

The Department of Health encourages all people to get vaccinated. Vaccination significantly reduces the risk of serious illness and death from COVID-19 and reduces the rate of transmission.

Are staff who only work outside still required to be vaccinated?

If you work in any place used for, or in connection with the slaughtering of animals for sale for human consumption, or for any place where carcasses are processed (other than for retail trading) you need to be vaccinated. This includes holding yards and feed lots on the same site as an abattoir.

Are delivery drivers to meat industry sites required to be vaccinated?

Yes, if you attend a meat industry site as a delivery driver, you must be vaccinated. This is regardless of whether you have contact with meat industry workers at the site or how often you deliver to the site.

Are tradespersons who provide services at a meat industry required to be vaccinated?

You do not need to be vaccinated if you are a tradesperson providing a service at meat industry sites, providing you attend sites no more than once per week and do not need to come within 1.5 metres of meat industry workers at the site while completing your work.

If you need to attend sites more often than once per week or need to come within 1.5 metres of meat industry workers to complete your work, you will need to be vaccinated.

Are staff who work at facilities that use meat in ready-to-eat or frozen meals required to be vaccinated?

No, staff who work at facilities that do not do boning or process carcasses and only manufacture ready-to-eat or frozen meals with meat content such as meat pies or pre-made ready-to-eat meals which include meat, are not required to be vaccinated to work at those facilities

I am a member of the public who delivers livestock to be processed for my personal use only. Do I need to be vaccinated to access the holding yards or the onsite offices to pay for the services?

No, as a member of the public you are not required to be vaccinated to access the processing facility holding yards to deliver livestock to be processed for your personal use, if that is the only purpose of your visit.

My meat processing facility has a retail store attached to the same site. Do my customers need to be vaccinated to attend the site?

No, members of the public are not required to be vaccinated to attend a retail component of a meat processing facility.

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on request for a person with disability.**

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