

Directions from Acting Chief Health Officer in accordance with emergency powers arising from declared state of emergency

COVID-19 Vaccinated Activities Directions

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (Vic)

Section 200

I, Professor Benjamin Cowie, Acting Chief Health Officer, consider it reasonably necessary to protect public health to give the following directions pursuant to section 200(1)(d) of the **Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (Vic) (PHW Act)**:

PART 1 — PRELIMINARY

1 Preamble

- (1) The purpose of these directions is to impose certain mandatory vaccination requirements in order for specific businesses to provide goods or services to the public to limit the spread of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (**SARS-CoV-2**) within the population in these settings.
- (2) These directions must be read together with the **Directions currently in force**.

2 Citation

These directions may be referred to as the **COVID-19 Vaccinated Activities Directions**.

3 Commencement

These directions commence at 11:59:00pm on 28 September 2021 and end at 11:59:00pm on 21 October 2021.

4 Application of these directions

- (1) These directions apply to **specified businesses** in the **Restricted Area**, namely:
 - (a) outdoor **personal training**.

PART 2 — BUSINESS OPERATOR OBLIGATIONS

5 Requirement to collect, record, hold and sight vaccination information

- (1) If an **operator** in the Restricted Area after the **relevant date** will or intends to provide the goods or services of the specified business to a group of

patrons in excess of the **patron limit**, the operator must collect, record and hold **vaccination information** of each patron and **worker**.

- (2) An operator must not, and must ensure that its workers do not, provide the relevant goods and services in the Restricted Area to patrons in excess of the patron limit unless it complies with the requirements specified in subclause (3).
- (3) An operator in the Restricted Area may provide the relevant goods or services of the specified business to patrons in excess of the patron limit, but to no more than the **vaccinated patron limit**, only if:
 - (a) its workers are **fully vaccinated** or **excepted persons**; and
 - (b) the operator first sights vaccination information collected in accordance with subclause (1) to show that each patron, is either:
 - (i) fully vaccinated; or
 - (ii) an excepted person.
- (4) For the purposes of sub-clause (3) if an operator does not hold vaccination information about a worker or a patron, the operator must treat that person as if they are **unvaccinated**.
- (5) An operator must treat a patron younger than 12 years of age as a fully vaccinated person, and may provide services to that patron without complying with subclause (3)(b).

PART 3 — USE OF VACCINATION INFORMATION

6 Authorisation for request, collection and storage and use of information

- (1) For the purposes of complying with clause 5 the operator is authorised by this provision:
 - (a) to request, collect and store information that is derived from a record of information that was made under, or in accordance with, the **AIR Act**; and
 - (b) to use information it holds under clause 5.

7 Disclosure to Authorised Officers

- (1) An **Authorised Officer** may request an operator or its workers to produce to the Authorised Officer any vaccination information held by the operator under clause 5.
- (2) If an Authorised Officer makes a request to a person under sub-clause 7, the person must comply with the request.

Note: Authorised officers may also be authorised to exercise the public health risk power in section 190(1)(d) of the PHW Act to require the provision of any information needed to investigate, eliminate or reduce the risk to public health.

PART 4 — DEFINITIONS

8 Definitions

For the purposes of these directions:

- (1) **AIR Act** means *Australian Immunisation Register Act 2015* (Cth);
- (2) **Area Directions** means the **Area Directions (No 22)** as amended from time to time;
- (3) **Authorised Officer** has the same meaning as in the **PHW Act**;
- (4) **COVID-19 vaccine** means a vaccine to protect a person against SARS-CoV-2 that:
 - (a) has been registered or provisionally registered by the Therapeutic Goods Administration; or
 - (b) has been approved by a comparable overseas regulator, as determined by the Therapeutic Goods Administration under regulation 16DA(3) of the **Therapeutic Goods Regulation 1990** of the Commonwealth;
- (5) **Directions currently in force** has the same meaning as in the **Workplace Directions**;
- (6) **excepted person** means a person that has obtained certification from a **medical practitioner** that the person is unable, due to a **medical contraindication**, to receive a dose, or a further dose, of a **COVID-19 vaccine**;
- (7) **fully vaccinated** in relation to a person means a person who has received two doses of a **COVID-19 vaccine**;
- (8) **medical contraindication** means the following contraindications to the administration of a **COVID-19 vaccine**:
 - (a) anaphylaxis after a previous dose;
 - (b) anaphylaxis to any component of the vaccine, including polysorbate or polyethylene glycol;
 - (c) in relation to AstraZeneca:
 - (i) history of capillary leak syndrome; or
 - (ii) thrombosis with thrombocytopenia occurring after a previous dose;
 - (d) in relation to Comirnaty or Spikevax:
 - (i) myocarditis or pericarditis attributed to a previous dose of either Comirnaty or Spikevax; or
 - (e) any other serious adverse event attributed to a previous dose of a **COVID-19 vaccine** (and without another cause identified) that has been reported to state adverse programs and/or the Therapeutic Goods Administration, and has been determined following review by, and/or on the opinion of, an experienced immunisation provider or

medical specialist taking into account whether repeat vaccine doses would be associated with a risk of recurrence of the serious adverse event;

- (9) **medical practitioner** means:
- (a) a general practice registrar on an approved 3GA training placement; or
 - (b) a public health physician; or
 - (c) a general physician; or
 - (d) an infectious disease physician; or
 - (e) a clinical immunologist; or
 - (f) a gynaecologist; or
 - (g) an obstetrician; or
 - (h) a general practitioner who is vocationally registered; or
 - (i) a general practitioner who is a fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP); or
 - (j) a general practitioner who is a fellow of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM);
- (10) **operator** in relation to a **specified business** means a person identified in Column 2 of Schedule 1 for that business;
- (11) **partially vaccinated** in relation to a person means the person has received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and is not an **exempt person**;
- (12) **patron** means a member of the public to whom goods or services are provided by a **specified business**;
- (13) **patron limit** in relation to a **specified business** means the maximum number of patrons as specified in Column 4 of Schedule 1;
- (14) **personal trainer** means a person who is, or a body corporate that provides the services of, an exercise professional who provides individually tailored client assessments, program development, instruction and demonstration, supervised exercise sessions and client reviews and who operates a business that holds an Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission;
- (15) **personal training** means a service provided by a **personal trainer** or the **worker** of a personal trainer;
- (16) **PHW Act** means the **Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008**;
- (17) **relevant date** in relation to a **specified business** means the date specified in Column 6 for that business;
- (18) **Restricted Area** has the same meaning as in the Area Directions;
- (19) **specified business** means a business identified in Column 1 of Schedule 1;

- (20) **unvaccinated** in relation to a person means a person who has not received a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and is not an **exempt person**;
- (21) **vaccinated patron limit** in relation to a **specified business** means the maximum number of patrons as specified in Column 5 of Schedule 1;
- (22) **vaccination information** means information about a person's **vaccination status** and includes information that is derived from a record of information that was made under, or in accordance with, the AIR Act;
- (23) **vaccination status** means one of the following in relation to a person:
 - (a) **fully vaccinated**; or
 - (b) **partially vaccinated**;
 - (c) **unvaccinated**; or
 - (d) **excepted person**;
- (24) **worker** in relation to a **specified business** means a person identified in Column 3 of Schedule 1 for that business.

9 Penalties

- (1) Section 210 of the PHW Act provides:

False or misleading information

- (a) A person must not—
 - (i) give information that is false or misleading in a material particular; or
 - (ii) make a statement that is false or misleading in a material particular; or
 - (iii) produce a document that is false or misleading in a material particular—

to the Secretary, a Council, the Chief Health Officer or an authorised officer under this Act or the regulations without indicating the respect in which it is false or misleading and, if practicable, providing correct information.

Penalty: In the case of a natural person, 60 penalty units;
 In the case of a body corporate, 300 penalty units.

- (b) A person must not make an entry in a document required to be kept by this Act or the regulations that is false or misleading.

Penalty: In the case of a natural person, 60 penalty units;
 In the case of a body corporate, 300 penalty units.

- (c) In a proceeding for an offence against subsection (1) or (2) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that at the time at which the offence is alleged to have been committed, the accused believed on reasonable grounds that the information, statement or document was true or was not misleading.

- (2) Section 203 of the PHW Act provides:

Compliance with direction or other requirement

- (a) A person must not refuse or fail to comply with a direction given to the person, or a requirement made of the person, in the exercise of a power under an authorisation given under section 199.

Penalty: In the case of a natural person, 120 penalty units;
 In the case of a body corporate, 600 penalty units.

- (b) A person is not guilty of an offence against subsection (1) if the person had a reasonable excuse for refusing or failing to comply with the direction or requirement.

Note: section 209 of the PHW Act provides for infringement notices to be served on any person who has refused or failed to comply with a direction given to the person, or a requirement made of the person, in the exercise of a power under an authorisation given under section 199. The amount payable pursuant to the infringement notice varies depending on the nature of the failure or refusal.



Professor Benjamin Cowie

Acting Chief Health Officer, as authorised to exercise emergency powers under section 199(2)(a) of the PHW Act.

28 September 2021

SCHEDULE 1 — SPECIFIED BUSINESSES

Specified Business (Column 1)	Operator (Column 2)	Worker (Column 3)	Patron limit (Column 4)	Vaccinated patron limit (Column 5)	Relevant date (Column 6)
outdoor personal training	personal trainer	any person (including a volunteer) conducting outdoor personal training , including: (a) a self-employed personal trainer ; (b) an employee of the operator ; and (b) any contractor engaged by the operator .	2 patrons outdoors at one time	5 patrons outdoors at one time that are all either fully vaccinated or excepted persons	29 September 2021