

# Victorian Freight and Logistics Industry COVID-19 update

25 November 2021

## 26 November full vaccination required

Workers covered by the COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination (Workers) Directions, such as port and freight workers, maritime crew and warehousing and distribution workers, are required to be fully vaccinated by tomorrow, 26 November 2021 or have a valid medical exemption.

After tomorrow, employers cannot permit their staff to undertake work in Victoria outside of their usual residence if they have not provided valid evidence of full vaccination or medical exemption.

## South Australia entry requirements for essential travellers

On 23 November, the South Australian Government brought into effect new entry rules for essential travellers such as commercial transport and freight workers. Note that any existing essential traveller approvals will be accepted until they expire.

Anyone wishing to enter South Australia needs to complete an [EntryCheck SA](#) application and will receive a confirmation email that has a link for essential travellers to apply for an exemption from some entry and quarantine requirements. The exemption application requires an employment contract or letter from an employer as evidence of essential traveller status. The essential traveller approval lasts for three months.

Victorian essential travellers need to produce evidence of a negative COVID-19 PCR test result conducted within the seven days before entry into South Australia.

Victorian essential travellers are also required to provide evidence of being fully vaccinated or a booking for a second dose of AstraZeneca vaccine if the recommended interval period between doses is still current. Essential travellers cannot attend high risk settings such as care facilities or events that have COVID management plans (for example, events over 1000 people).

Keep up to date on essential traveller requirements at the [South Australian Government website](#).

## Department of Health guidance on COVID-19 workplace contact management

The Victorian Department of Health has provided further guidance on the recent changes to contact assessment and management in the public health directions.

### Notification of an infectious case in the workplace

The Department of Health no longer notifies workplaces when workers test positive for COVID-19. It is the obligation of the positive case to inform their workplace if they were there when infectious.

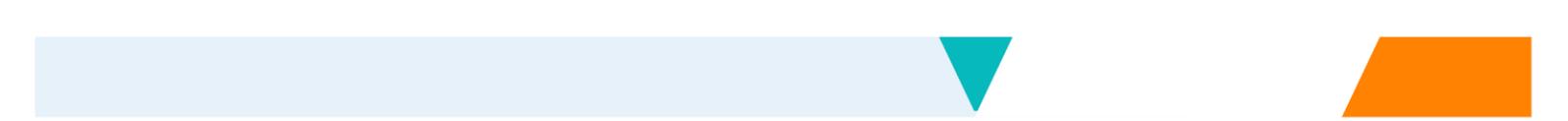
The workplace is then required to identify workers that were contacts of the positive case and those that are low risk, using the matrix contained in the [Contact Assessment and Management Guide](#). It is important that freight and logistics industry employers maintain their records of people attending their workplaces.

Workplaces are no longer required to provide a list of contacts to the Department of Health, unless specifically asked, but they should provide details of the positive case.

### Testing requirements

Anyone that has even the mildest of symptoms should get a PCR test.

Workplace contacts must get a PCR test within 24 hours of being notified that they are a contact. The workplace is required to confirm a negative test has been received to allow the contact to return to work.



When they get their initial PCR test, the contact should be offered five free rapid antigen tests to take home with them. It is strongly recommended that the contact conducts these rapid antigen tests over the week following their negative PCR test.

Should the contact return a positive rapid antigen test, they should take another PCR test and isolate until they receive a negative PCR test result.

### **Isolation and quarantine**

#### *Positive COVID-19 cases*

Positive cases are required to isolate for 10 days. They will receive automated notification of release from isolation on day 10.

#### *Workplace contacts*

Workplace contacts (non-household contacts) only need to quarantine till they receive a negative PCR test result. They are required to provide the operator of the workplace with evidence of the negative PCR test result before the worker returns to their workplace.

### **More information**

Key changes to contact management in the workplace can be found on the [Coronavirus website](#). Helpful checklists to assist positive COVID-19 cases and their contacts with what they need to do, can also be accessed on the [Coronavirus website](#).