

**siag**

industrial relations : human resources : employment matters : training

CIRCULAR: GEN/163/NAT/163/21
DATE: 18 November 2021
SUBJECT: Victorian COVID-19 Restrictions Update
ATTENTION: Chief Executive Officer

This morning, the Premier Dan Andrews announced that nearly all existing COVID-19 restrictions in place will ease or be removed at **11.59pm 18 November 2021** for people who are fully vaccinated, under 12 years and two months or have a valid exemption – that is the ‘vaccinated economy’ will remain in place.

The changes include:

Visitors in the home	No limit on numbers
Gatherings indoors and outdoors	No limit on numbers i.e. real estate can resume open for inspections and auction activity pre-COVID-19 (where all individuals are fully vaccinated)
Masks	Masks are required for indoors only in retail, health care, aged care, justice facilities and public transport environments
Schools	Masks must be worn by primary school staff and all students in Year 3 and above
Physical recreation (gyms etc)	Open to fully vaccinated people only
Retail	Non-essential retail open to fully vaccinated people only Non-vaccinated people can use essential retail like supermarkets
Offices	General office workspaces must have a COVID-safe plan and only fully vaccinated people can be at workplaces
Personal services	Open to fully vaccinated people only
Hospitality venues	Open to fully vaccinated people only
Weddings	No limit for fully vaccinated groups Groups with non-vaccinated people capped at 50 people with 4sqm density rule
Hospitals and Aged Care	Residents can have five visitors per day including dependants, those visitors are encouraged to be fully vaccinated Visitors to hospitals are capped to few circumstances including end of life
Higher Education	Only fully vaccinated people can attend onsite

	Non-vaccinated people can attend onsite only if they cannot be taught online
Funerals	No limit for fully vaccinated groups Groups with non-vaccinated people capped at 50 people with 4sqm density rule
Travel	No limits on travel within the State

There are also significant changes to the arrangements in place for close contact / Tier 1 etc, with further information to be made available. The Premier's statement includes by way of summary:

From 11:59pm tonight, the vast majority of people who come into contact with a confirmed positive case outside their home won't have to self-quarantine. These contacts will be required to get a standard (PCR) test and isolate until they get a negative result.

This means exposure in places like offices, restaurants or nightclubs won't automatically result in quarantine for the patrons or staff, who previously would have been designated Primary Close Contacts at Tier 1 exposure sites.

You can view a full copy of the Premier's statement here:

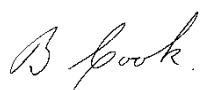
<https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/more-freedoms-come-victoria-hits-90-cent-vax-rate>

The Government has prepared a quick table of the updates here:

<https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-11/211118%20-%20Restrictions.pdf>

The Victorian Government is yet to release the updated formal Directions but SIAG will provide an update once they are available.

If you have any questions or if you require further information, please contact the SIAG National Advisory Service on 03 9644 1400 or 1300 (SIAG HR) / 1300 742 447. The Information provided in this email is generic advice. For advice in respect of your specific situation please contact us.



Brian Cook
Managing Director

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