



Government of Western Australia Department of Health

# PHEOC BULLETIN #71

# **Tuesday 20 July 2021 14:00 Hours**

This bulletin has been authorised by the Deputy PHEOC Coordinator, Dr Revle Bangor-Jones

## **COVID-19 case and vaccination numbers**

The latest advice from the Chief Health Officer

- Summary: as of Tuesday 20 July, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
  - 1,046 confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
  - 99 historical cases of COVID-19 notified
  - 1,022 people recover from COVID-19
  - o 1,466,545 COVID-19 tests conducted
- WA: Daily snapshot & Vaccination dashboard
- National: Current National Status & Australia's vaccine roll-out
- Worldwide: <u>WHO Situation Reports & WHO Dashboard</u>

# Living with COVID

## Chief Health Officer advice

The latest advice from the Chief Health Officer is available here.

- <u>16 July 2021</u> Controlled Border Controls Victoria
- 14 July 2021 Border Restrictions Victoria
- <u>09 July 2021</u> Relaxation of Perth-Peel region restrictions
- 08 July 2021 Easing of border controls Northern Territory

## South Australia transitions to low risk

As of 9:30am 20 July 2021, South Australia is classified as a 'low risk' jurisdiction. Travellers entering WA after this time who have been in South Australia since July 8 must:

- self-quarantine for 14 days in a suitable premises
- present for a COVID-19 test on arrival (within 48 hours) and on day 12
- complete a <u>G2G PASS</u> declaration prior to arrival, stipulating they do not have any COVID-19 symptoms and which jurisdictions they have been in the previous 14 days
- undergo a health screening upon arrival.

Travellers who have attended an exposure site must:

- self-quarantine for 14 days
- be tested within 48 hours and on day 12.

Travellers who have been in South Australia recently should continue to monitor the listed exposure sites in case additional locations are added and are advised to get tested if they develop any symptoms.

Masks should be worn when transiting to a self-quarantine premises and presenting for COVID-19 testing. <u>COVID clinic</u> information is available on HealthyWA.

Refer to the media statement and exposure site announcement for further information.

#### Victoria advice

Victoria transitioned to a 'medium risk' jurisdiction as of 12.01am 17 July 2021. Refer to the hard border <u>announcement</u> or <u>media release</u> for further information.

Read the requirements for those who arrived between 12.01am 8 July 2021 and 12.01am 17 July 2021 in the <u>announcement</u> for additional information.

Recent travellers should wear a face covering and practise physical distancing while attending a <u>COVID clinic</u> for testing, and continue to monitor the Victorian <u>exposure sites</u> in case additional locations are added.

#### New South Wales entry requirements tightened

WA residents wanting to enter WA from NSW are not guaranteed entry and need to demonstrate extenuating circumstances to be granted approval under the 'medium risk' jurisdiction rating. Read the <u>announcement</u> for further information.

#### **Jurisdiction risk rating**

New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland are considered 'medium risk'. South Australia and Australian Capital Territory are considered 'low risk'. Northern Territory, Tasmania and New Zealand are considered 'very low risk'. For more information on WA's border arrangement, see the WA Government's controlled interstate border <u>webpage</u>.

#### Perth and Peel return to pre-lockdown conditions

The transitional outbreak conditions for the Perth and Peel regions ended as planned at 12:01am Monday 12 July 2021. Phase 5 conditions have been reinstated. Information for businesses can be found at <u>WA.gov.au</u>, including contact register requirements. Most businesses and venues are required to continue to maintain a contact register, including a manual registration option. While it's not mandatory, all businesses are encouraged to maintain contact registers as they're essential in identifying contacts of known cases of COVID-19.

Restrictions remain in place for visitors to residential aged care facilities (RACF) to protect residents. Visitors should not attend if they have:

- returned from overseas in the last 14 days
- been informed they are a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- not had an up-to-date influenza vaccination
- symptoms, including:
  - $\circ$  fever
  - o recent history of fever
  - o symptoms of acute respiratory infection (e.g. shortness of breath, cough, sore throat)
  - o loss of smell or taste

Quarantine centre workers must wear a face mask and keep 1.5 metres away from other people when visiting residential aged care facilities.

Refer to the RACF Directions and WA.gov.au regarding current community conditions.

People who develop COVID-19 symptoms, no matter how mild, should present for a test at a COVID-19 testing clinic.

## Community

#### **Small Business Lockdown Assistance**

The WA Government recently <u>announced</u> the Small Business Lockdown Assistance Grants program to provide up to \$3,000 of support to businesses impacted by the recent lockdown and transitional restriction period. Applications are open at the Small Business Development Corporation <u>website</u>. Commencement of payment is expected by the end of the month.

Read the media statement or announcement for further information.

## **COVID-19 vaccination program**

Western Australians are urged to book an appointment for a vaccination as soon as they are eligible, to help protect ourselves, our families and our communities from COVID-19.

Those in quarantine or self-quarantine are not permitted to leave the suitable premises (e.g. the home) to receive a COIVD-19 vaccination. Appointments during this period should be rescheduled by:

- Logging into <u>VaccinateWA</u> for appointments at a state-run vaccination clinic or calling 13 COVID (13 26843), or
- Contacting your GP or primary-care provider for appointments at participating GPs, pharmacies and respiratory clinics.

New advice from the Australian Government indicates that pregnant women (aged 16 to 39) are now eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine. Pregnant women should register on <u>VaccinateWA</u>, or speak to their GP, and will be contacted when appointments become available.

Residential aged care workers continue to be a priority population, as they are on the frontline of protecting the most vulnerable people in our community. Vaccination will become mandatory for these workers on 17 September 2021.

<u>Community clinics</u> in WA include Claremont Showgrounds, Joondalup, Kwinana, Redcliffe and Bunbury.

Anyone having difficulties booking on VaccinateWA can call 13 COVID (1326843) for assistance.

#### Vaccine information and resources

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

- Requests for <u>alternative COVID-19 vaccine</u>
- HealthyWA <u>COVID-19 Vaccine</u> (for WA community) including <u>FAQs</u>
- 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
- <u>Rollup for WA</u> and <u>Rollup for WA posters</u>

## **Directions updates**

COVID-19 State of Emergency <u>Declarations</u> and community <u>advice</u> summarises the latest COVID-19 Directions that are in place in WA. Further information can be found on WA Government<u>website</u>.

#### **New Directions:**

Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions (No 34) Presentation for Testing Directions (No 30) Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions (No 33) Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions (No 2) South Australia Exposure Site Directions Victoria Exposure Site Directions Tasmanian Presentation for Testing and Isolation Directions Northern Territory Quarantine, Isolation and Presentation for Testing Modification Directions Wastewater COVID Testing at Laboratories Outside of WA Reporting Directions

Wastewater COVID Testing at WA Laboratories Reporting Directions

## **Updated fact sheets**

<u>COVID -19 Infection Prevention and Control in Western Australian Healthcare Facilities version 9</u> <u>COVID-19 Goldfields medical and other support phone list</u> Guide to Funerals and Sorry Business <u>Clinician Alert #62</u> <u>Quarantine Driver Directions fact sheet</u> <u>Donning and Doffing poster</u> <u>Transport Freight and Logistics Directions – FAQs</u> <u>Medical assessment for mariners</u> <u>Assistance for people in quarantine or isolation</u>

# Testing

## **Presentation for Testing Directions (30)**

An amendment to the Presentation for Testing Directions has come into effect to strengthen the COVID-19 testing requirements in WA. Significant changes include the requirement for certain return travellers to present for testing:

- on day 12 of quarantine (day of arrival being day 0)
- post-quarantine (days 17 and 21).

Refer to the <u>Directions</u> for further information.

### General population testing criteria

Any person may be tested if they have any one of the following clinical criteria: fever ( $\geq$ 37.5°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.

#### **Testing locations**

Testing locations are listed on <u>HealthyWA</u>.

#### Reporting

Notify suspected COVID-19 cases by completing the notification form either <u>ONLINE</u> or by printing out the notification form.

# Series of National Guidelines (SoNG)

The latest iteration was released on 24 June 2021.

# Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)

The <u>Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)</u> 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. The AHPPC has released the following statements recently:

- <u>9 July 2021</u> Statement on public health management of persons fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2
- <u>9 July 2021</u> Statement on vaccination arrangements for workers in mobile workforce
- <u>9 July 2021</u> Statement on National Principles for Infection Prevention and Control in Quarantine
- <u>9 July 2021</u> Statement on mandating vaccination among residential disability support workers

# **Business and industry**

#### **Resources for more information**

- WA Department of Health and HealthyWA
- Department of Health Media Releases
- <u>Australian Government Health Department</u>
- Advice for the public (WHO)

- <u>Advice in other languages and Translated Resources</u>
- Advice for Aboriginal people
- <u>Covid Clinic walkthrough</u> in multiple languages

## Who to contact for 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 <u>G2G PASS</u> 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 PHEOC Bulletin is issued weekly. Next issue: Tuesday 27 July 2021.

#### Last updated 20 July 2021

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

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