



COVID-19 update

Dear services and providers,

The Department is committed to providing regular sector updates and information when updates are made to the [Public Health Order](#).

For staff who work in LGAs of concern, an extension has been applied for mandatory vaccination. **You now need to have the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccination by 6 September 2021.**

Getting vaccinated is an important way educators can protect themselves and the children in our services and their communities from COVID-19.

[Book your vaccination now](#)

Per the [Public Health \(COVID-19 Additional Restrictions for Delta Outbreak\) Order \(No 2\) 2021 \[NSW\]](#):

By 6 September 2021:

Early education and care workers (16 years of age or older), and disability support workers, **who live or work** in one of the LGA's listed as an area of concern, must not enter or remain in their place of work unless the worker:

- has had at least 1 dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, or
- has been issued with a medical contraindication certificate.

By 6 September 2021:

An authorised worker **who lives in an area of concern**, must not leave the area of concern for work, unless the worker:

- has had at least 1 dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, or
- has been issued with a medical contraindication certificate.

[Areas of concern are those Local Government Areas \(LGA's\) or parts of an LGA that are identified in the PHO as an area of concern.](#)

How do I book my appointment?

If you are in the [LGAs of concern](#), NSW Health has established priority Pfizer vaccination appointments to support early childhood educators to meet the new requirements. Eligible staff can visit the [NSW Government website](#) to book.

Proof of occupation (ID card or a letter from an employer) will be required at the appointment to demonstrate eligibility.

Can a worker be exempt from this requirement?

Workers may be exempt from the vaccination requirement if they have a medical certificate from a medical practitioner in the [form approved by the NSW Chief Health Officer](#) that certifies that because of a specified medical contraindication, the person cannot have a COVID-19 vaccine.

What happens if an employee is not vaccinated by 6 September 2021 or refuses to get vaccinated?

If, by 6 September 2021, your employee falls under the requirements of the PHO but has not had at least 1 dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, or has not obtained a medical contraindication certificate, they will not be able to attend their workplace.

Further information on COVID-19, health and safety, vaccinations in the workplace and employer obligations in relation to their employees is available from the [Fair Work Ombudsman](#).

For more information

[COVID-19 Guidelines for ECEC services](#) based on advice from NSW Health.

Educators are encouraged to regularly check the [NSW Health website](#) and [NSW Government website](#) regarding up-to-date restrictions in NSW. Here are some links that may be useful:

- [Regional and Rural NSW restrictions](#)
- [COVID-19 tests for Sydney workers](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination for workers](#)

The [NSW Government website](#) provides further information about how to get a COVID-19 vaccine. You can also contact the **COVID-19 Vaccination Program hotline on 1800 571 155** between 8am – 9.30pm, 7 days a week for assistance.

If you have any questions about your service operation you can contact the Information and Enquiries team on 1800 619 113 or by emailing ececd@det.nsw.edu.au.



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Services in the LGAs of concern

Our mailing address is:

Early Childhood Education

L 8 10 Valentine Ave

PARRAMATTA, NSW 2150

Australia

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