

RED ZONE: Freight Workers Priority

Process

Sunshine & Showgrounds

COVID-19
VACCINATION
HUB

Western Health is committed to supporting our community to safely receive their COVID-19 Vaccination inclusive of freight workers working in environments that may result in potentially higher risk of exposure to COVID-19, referred to as 'Red Zones'.

This QRG describes how to define and correctly identify Red Zone freight workers. Outlined in this document is the booking and appointment process to ensure vaccinations are administered to Red Zone freight workers in an appropriate and safe environment with minimal risk to Western Health employees, contractors and the general public.

This QRG outlines requirements for facilitating freight workers at dedicated Showground and Sunshine Red Zones for priority vaccination.

Who are RED Zone freight workers who are eligible for priority bookings?

Freight workers who are required to be vaccinated in Red Zone are identified as commercial freight drivers who are subject to the freight code.

This **includes** a heavy vehicle driver, rail crew or a support worker

This **excludes**:

- removalists who have been in a Red Zone within the last 14 days
- delivery drivers that have been in a Red Zone within the last 14 days (being drivers of vehicles under 4.5 Gross Vehicle Mass) and
- freight workers who are unable to load/unload cargo in a COVID Safe manner (e.g. avoiding contact with other people, entering residential premises (e.g. avoiding contact with other people, entering residential premises not permitted)).

Freight workers will hold a Specified Worker (Low Workplace Interaction) permit.

This permit is issued by CQV.

Freight workers can only obtain this permit and enter Victoria if:

- they do not have COVID-19 or have any symptoms
- haven't been to an exposure site and;
- are not a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case.

Who is not eligible for Freight Worker priority booking?

Workers with the following permits are not eligible for priority vaccination

- Specified worker (exclusive outdoor activities) permit - for eligible workers who perform all their work outdoors
- Specified worker (other) permit - for eligible workers who perform any of their work indoors



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How to correctly identify Red Zone workers?

When a freight worker calls the Department of Health (DH) Coronavirus Hotline 1800 675 398 to make a priority booking for vaccination the agent will ask:

- a. Are you a Commercial Freight Worker, if no > **unable to make appointment**
- b. Do you hold a Specified Worker (Low Workplace Interaction) permit, if no > **unable to make appointment**
- c. Do you have COVID-19 or have any symptoms, if yes > **unable to make appointment**
- d. Have you been to an exposure site, if yes, > **unable to make appointment**
- e. Are you a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case if yes, > **unable to make appointment**
- f. Do you have evidence of a recent (within 3 days) negative test, if no > **cannot make an appointment**

*** cannot be booked at Sunshine Hospital between 0900 and 1400 Tuesday – reserved for International Aircrew*

Booking Instructions to Freight Worker:

Booking Agent to advise worker they:

- a. Require a letter from employer on company letterhead on presentation for vaccination
- b. Must present Specified Worker (Low Workplace Interaction) permit
- c. Must provide evidence of recent negative test (within 3 days)
- d. Must not attend with another person
- e. Must not attend if any COVID symptoms

Presentation to Vaccination Hub

Instructions for sit down vaccination hub (Showgrounds and Sunshine)

- a) Attends site via dedicated entrance as per booking instructions
- b) Must have letter from employer
- c) Must have proof of recent (within 3 days) negative test
- d) Must present Specified Worker (Low Workplace Interaction) permit
- e) Ensures clean surgical mask provided
- f) Screened re: COVID symptoms, attendance at an exposure site, not a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case > **if screen positive, cannot proceed**
- g) Vaccination and observation in 2 cubicle red zone (can have crossed path of travel / occupy space with other freight workers (adequately screened), cannot mix with public or international air crew)
- h) Direct exit from vaccination area



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Western Health Site Requirements

1. Freight Workers must meet eligibility criteria for priority booking via call centre
Specified Worker (Low Workplace Interaction) permit ONLY
2. Appointments are booking only via the coronavirus hotline
3. No bookings at Sunshine Hospital between 0900 – 1400 Tuesdays to facilitate International Aircrew vaccination
4. Proof of eligibility to be presented on arrival to security for entrance to red zone
5. Dedicated entrance / path of travel determined at Showgrounds and Sunshine sites

About the Specified Worker Permit (Further details: [DH Coronavirus webpage](#))

This permit is for specified workers who have been in an orange, red or extreme risk zone at any time since the zone started over the last 14 days.

If you are a specified worker who has only been in a green zone, you can apply for and carry a green zone permit. However, you would need to apply for a Specified Worker Permit if a zone you have travelled in within the last 14 days changes to an orange, red or extreme risk zone.

There are three types of specified worker permit:

- The specified worker (exclusive outdoor activities) permit is for eligible workers who perform all their work outdoors
- The specified worker (other) permit is for eligible workers who perform any of their work indoors
- **The specified worker (low workplace interaction) permit is designed for eligible freight workers**

The different permits have different conditions but testing and isolation requirements apply to all of them if you have been in an orange, red or extreme risk zone at any time since the zone started over the last 14 days. See more information below.

Specified worker (low workplace interaction) permit is designed for eligible freight workers

If you're eligible for a specified worker (low workplace interaction) permit and you've been in a red or extreme risk zone at any time after the red zone or extreme risk zone commencement time in the last 14 days, you must:

- quarantine at your accommodation when not working or while traveling for work
- get tested for COVID-19 at least once every 3 days during the time the permit is valid

only leave your vehicle or the accommodation where you are quarantining when working to undertake the work that makes you eligible for the specified worker permit (e.g. driving and unloading), and to:

- access toilet and bathroom facilities
- pay for fuel
- purchase essential items
- purchase takeaway food and drink
- depart Victoria from an airport, seaport or railway station
- must not carry any other person as a passenger in the driver's cabin of a vehicle while traveling for work outside of Victoria, other than for the purpose of providing specified work in an occupation included in the Specified Worker (Low Workplace Interaction) List
- minimise contact with others when not traveling for work outside of Victoria
- wear a mask indoors and outdoors whilst traveling for work outside of Victoria

If you are a non-Victorian resident in Victoria:

- quarantine at accommodation when not working
- get tested for COVID-19 at least once every 3 days during the time the permit is valid
- you must not carry any other person as a passenger in the driver's cabin of a vehicle, other than for the purpose of providing specified work in an occupation included in the Specified Worker (Low Workplace Interaction) List
- only leave isolation to undertake the work that makes you eligible for the specified worker permit (e.g. driving and unloading), and to

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- access toilet and bathroom facilities
- pay for fuel
- purchase essential items
- purchase takeaway food and drink
- depart Victoria from an airport, seaport or railway station
- minimise contact with others when inside Victoria
- wear a mask indoors and outdoors unless an exception applies
- only remain in Victoria for the period of time necessary to provide the work

