

### Pandemic Declaration extended and updated Pandemic Orders issued

Following the recent [announcement](#) of the Victorian Premier's decision made under section 165AE of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* to extend the Pandemic Declaration for three months, the Victorian Health Minister has overnight issued **updated Pandemic Orders**, operative from 11:59pm 12 April 2022 until **11:59pm 12 July 2022**.

**For the automotive industry, there is no change to COVID-Safe requirements as a result of the updated Pandemic Orders**, meaning previous requirements continue to apply in relation to:

- **COVID-19 vaccination status**
- **COVIDSafe Plans**
- **Testing, Isolation and Notification**, including 7-day close contact isolation
- **Record keeping**, including vaccination status of specified workers
- **Signage**
- **Face masks**, including the requirement to wear (unless an exemption applies) whilst working in an indoor space that is publicly accessible area of a retail premises or a food and drink premises

In addition, for members operating **food and drink** facilities:

- use of the Victorian Government's QR code check-in (for customers and workers)
- vaccination status checks (of customers)

Members can access the new Pandemic Declaration and updated Pandemic Orders of relevance below:

- [Pandemic COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination \(Specified Workers\) Order 2022 \(No. 6\)](#)
- [Pandemic COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination \(General Workers\) Order 2022 \(No. 4\)](#)
- [Pandemic \(Quarantine Isolation and Testing\) Order 2022 \(No. 7\)](#)
- [Pandemic \(Open Premises\) Order 2022 \(No. 6\)](#)
- [Pandemic \(Workplace\) Order 2022 \(No. 7\)](#)
- [Pandemic \(Movement and Gathering\) Order 2022 \(No. 5\)](#)

**Members can access a summary of current COVID-19 testing, isolation and notification requirement FAQs [here](#).**

As previously noted, **Authorised Officers are continuing random audits** on businesses throughout Victoria. Businesses who are unable to demonstrate their compliance (e.g. completed COVIDSafe Plan and/or vaccination status register of relevant employees, including working directors) for inspection on request, face an **on-the-spot fine** of up to **\$10,904** or up to **\$21,809** for serious offences. VACC encourages members to contact the **VACC OHSE Unit on 03 9829 1265** should they require any assistance.

VACC will continue to engage with Victorian Government officials and will keep members advised of developments. In the interim, members seeking further information are encouraged to contact VACC's Workplace Relations team on 03 9829 1123 or [ir@vacc.com.au](mailto:ir@vacc.com.au).

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