

Victorian Premier announces a further easing of restrictions from 6pm, 29 October 2021

The Victorian Premier yesterday [announced](#) that a further easing of restrictions will occur from **6pm, Friday 29 October 2021**, as the **80 per cent (16 years and over) double dose** vaccination target is reached. As part of the announcement, the Victorian Premier foreshadowed that under a [revised 'Roadmap'](#) – a further significant easing of restrictions in line with Phase D of the National Plan will occur when Victoria hits the **90 per cent double dose (12 years and over) target** [previously 80 per cent double dose (12 years and over)], with a current indicative date of **Wednesday, 24 November 2021**.

The announcement confirmed that **from 6pm, Friday 29 October 2021:**

- **Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria** will be on the **same** level of restrictions – meaning that the **travel limitation between Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria will be removed**
- **Masks will no longer be required outdoors** but will remain mandatory indoors.
- **All automotive business will be able to operate**, subject to the COVIDSafe Settings below.

Members should refer to our last [Bulletin](#) for **current settings**.

COVIDSafe Settings

Face masks – from 6pm, Friday 29 October 2021

Face masks must be **carried at all times and worn indoors** throughout Victoria except if at home, or when visiting an intimate partner's place of residence or if an exemption applies. Face masks will **no longer be required to be worn outdoors**. However, it is **highly recommended** that masks continue to be worn outdoors where you cannot physically distance.

Working from Home – from 6pm, Friday 29 October 2021

For those who are **not authorised workers** performing work covered under the COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination (Workers) Directions, the work settings move from *“must work from home”* to *“work from home if you can; OR Go to work if you are fully vaccinated”*.

There is **no change to the current vaccination status requirements** for those authorised to work outside their home under the COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination (Workers) Directions.

Density quotients – from 6pm, Friday 29 October 2021

Density quotients in shared spaces and publicly accessible areas of **1 person per 4 square metres (DQ4)**, subject to the following:

- **All retail** – Open with DQ4
- **Food and drink facilities:** open for seated service only **indoors**. Where customers and staff are fully vaccinated: **DQ4 indoors and DQ2 with maximum of 500 outdoors - and up to 25 people before DQ applies.** Otherwise: **DQ4 with maximum of 10 indoors and 30 outdoors.**

Food courts **open at DQ4**, with masks able to be removed to consume food and drink.

Note: A business operating under the fully vaccinated arrangements must ensure that a worker is located at each entrance to the premises in the capacity of a COVID-Check-in Marshal, who will ensure that patrons (16 years and over) show acceptable evidence that they are either fully vaccinated or an excepted person.

- **Office work environments** – DQ2 for areas non-accessible to public. Masks to be worn indoors.

QR Code Requirements

The electronic record keeping requirements through **Victorian Government QR Code Service** continue to apply throughout Victoria. **The requirement to make reasonable efforts to ensure people check-in and to prominently display QR Code signage at each entrance remains unchanged.**

COVIDSafe Plan

COVIDSafe Plans are mandatory for **all** Victorian workplaces. VACC recommends that COVIDSafe Plans should be **reviewed to ensure it is tailored to your business and remains up-to-date**; and that face covering, cleaning, signage, record-keeping and other requirements applicable to your business (including response to suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 at the work premises) are being adhered to and communicated with all relevant staff. Members are encouraged to contact the VACC OHSE Unit for any further information or assistance, including in relation to their [COVIDSafe Plan obligations](#) on 03 9829 1265.

VACC will provide a further update once the Directions giving effect to this announcement have been issued. In the interim, members seeking further advice or assistance are encouraged to contact VACC's Workplace Relations team on 03 9829 1123 or ir@vacc.com.au.

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