

JMB JOBNET COVID-19 UPDATE



The NSW Government has announced new restrictions and requirements in response to the evolving Covid-19 outbreak. This update document includes new and changed COVID-19 travel registration and vaccination requirements in NSW.

NEW AND CHANGED COVID-19 TRAVEL AND VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

The NSW Government has announced new restrictions and requirements in response to the evolving Covid-19 outbreak. Changes include:

- A requirement for authorised workers who leave or enter an LGA of concern to register their travel.
- A vaccination requirement for individuals who reside in an LGA of concern and need to leave that area for work, from 6 September.*
- A vaccination requirement for all healthcare workers from the end of September.

* Please note, the requirement for vaccination will apply from 6th September, not from 31 August as originally announced. As part of the change announced late on Friday 27 August, workers must have had at least 1 dose of Covid vaccine or evidence of a medical exemption. Rapid antigen testing will no longer be an option to support the travel of authorised workers leaving LGAs of concern for work.

Leaving or entering a local government area of concern for work (new permit)

From 12:01am Saturday 28 August 2021, individuals will need to register their travel within NSW if they are:

- An authorised worker from a local government area of concern and need to leave the area for work; or
- A worker entering a local government area of concern.

Individuals do not need to register their travel if they are providing an emergency service.

To register, individuals will need a MyServiceNSW Account. This account can be created upon registration. Registration can be completed here. Authorised workers will need to carry their travel registration with them as they may need to provide these to NSW Police upon request.

Travel registration is valid for a maximum of 14 days, after which workers will need to re-apply.

COVID-19 vaccination requirements

In addition to travel registration, from Monday 6 September 2021, if an individual lives in or are temporarily staying in a local government area of concern, they must not leave this area for work unless they have:

- Had at least 1 dose of a COVID-19 vaccine; or
- Evidence of a medical exemption

Authorised workers who are unable to have a COVID-19 vaccine can request a COVID-19 vaccination exemption for medical reasons.

Authorised workers must carry evidence of their vaccination or medical exemption and produce that evidence to their employer, the occupier of your place of work, a police officer or an authorised officer, if requested and carry proof of your address.

Evidence of a COVID-19 vaccination can include an:

- Online immunisation history statement; or
- COVID-19 digital certificate from the Australian Immunisation Register.

Evidence of your medical exemption must be from a medical practitioner in the form approved by the NSW Chief Health Officer.

JMB Jobnet workers who live or work in local government areas of concern MUST register to travel as soon as possible. Workers based in a local government area of concern who do not register to travel and fail to meet the vaccination obligations WILL NOT be placed in work outside of their local government area of concern.

NEW AND CHANGED COVID-19 TRAVEL AND VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

Leaving Greater Sydney (existing permit)

This new permit and vaccination requirement is in addition to the existing permit for those individuals who need to leave Greater Sydney for work or other reasons. Currently, if a person lives in Greater Sydney, they will need to register when travelling outside of this broader region if they are:

- Travelling for work more than 50km outside Greater Sydney (including authorised workers from local government areas of concern);
- Inspecting a potential place of residence anywhere outside Greater Sydney because they genuinely need a place to live in, as soon as practicably (no investment properties); or
- Moving between 2 places of residence:
 - For work accommodation (only the worker can travel to the residence); or
 - Need to undertake urgent maintenance, repairs, or attend to animal welfare (if so, only 1 person may travel to the other residence).

From Monday 6 September 2021, authorised workers from local government areas of concern who apply for this permit will only be permitted to work if they have had at least 1 dose of vaccine or have a medical exemption.

Vaccination requirement for all healthcare workers from the end of September

On 26 August 2021, the NSW Government made a new Public Health Order under which healthcare workers in NSW will be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Under the Order, health staff must have a first dose of the vaccine by 30 September 2021 and be fully vaccinated by 30 November 2021, or at least have their second appointment booked to continue working. The Order applies to:

- In the public sector, persons who work for the NSW Health Service, for a public health organisation, the Health Administration Corporation and Ambulance Service of NSW, as well as staff of the Ministry of Health;
- In the private sector a person who does work in a private health facility, being a private hospital or day procedure centre; and
- In the private sector, registered paramedics whose work involves transporting, or assessing whether to transport, person to and from a public or private health facility.

Work is defined broadly to cover employees, contractors, VMOs, visiting practitioners, volunteers and students undertaking clinical placements. However, the Order does not include private primary care providers such as GPs.

JMB Jobnet is responsible for taking reasonable steps to ensure workers comply with the Order, and are able to request evidence of their workers having received a COVID-19 vaccination.

Those who have a medical contraindication will be exemption from this mandate if a medical practitioner confirms the medical contraindication.