

## Volunteers in national COVID-19 vaccine mandates

*At the Commonwealth level, two doses of a Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approved COVID-19 vaccination are currently mandatory for some volunteers.*

In Commonwealth funded aged care service providers delivering **residential aged care services**:

- Volunteers must have already received two doses of a TGA approved COVID-19 vaccine, as well as a booster dose.<sup>1</sup> State and territory public health orders define who must be vaccinated and by when, and limited exemptions that may apply. Links to requirements in each state and territory can be found [here](#).

In Commonwealth funded aged care service providers delivering **in-home and community aged care services**:

- Volunteers must have received two doses of a TGA approved COVID-19 vaccine.
- State and territory public health orders define who must be vaccinated and by when, whether a primary course only or booster dose is mandatory, and limited exemptions that may apply. However, the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) clearly recommends that mandatory COVID-19 vaccination requirements **include volunteers** in-home and community aged care.<sup>2</sup>

If providing intensive supports to **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants**.

- **Workers** must have received two doses of a TGA approved COVID-19 vaccine. ***This may include volunteers.***<sup>3</sup>
- This mandate, as advised by the AHPPC, is implemented at the state and territory level. ***Whether volunteers who provide intensive supports to NDIS participants are included in the vaccine mandate is decided by state and territory governments.***

Other vaccine mandates for specific sectors or roles are included in Public Health Orders designed and implemented by the state and territory governments. ***These may include volunteers.***

Information on the mandate of COVID-19 vaccines for volunteers not included in the sectors or roles outlined above should be sought from state and territory governments.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/information-for-aged-care-providers-workers-and-residents-about-covid-19-vaccines/mandatory-covid-19-vaccination-in-aged-care>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.health.gov.au/news/australian-health-protection-principal-committee-ahppc-statement-on-mandatory-vaccination-of-aged-care-in-home-and-community-aged-care-workers>

<sup>3</sup> The AHPPC recommended that COVID-19 vaccinations should be made mandatory for disability support workers providing intensive supports to NDIS participants, and that all jurisdictions accept a national definition of disability support worker and intensive supports. However, while clear that the provider's obligation applies not just in relation to workers they employ, but also to workers they "engage in other ways," **volunteers are not specified** in the definition provided. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/australian-health-protection-principal-committee-ahppc-statement-on-mandating-vaccination-for-disability-support-workers>