



Tertiary Provider and International Bulletin

Friday 26 November 2021

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COVID-19 Alert Level settings

The Auckland region continues to remain at Alert Level 3, Step 2, and the remainder of New Zealand remains at Alert Level 2.

Decisions on COVID-19 Protection Framework settings

On Monday 22 November, the Prime Minister announced all of New Zealand will transition to the new COVID-19 Protection Framework (the 'traffic light system') at 11.59pm on 2 December 2021.

Next week on Monday 29 November, Cabinet will determine which COVID-19 Protection Framework settings that different parts of the country will move into. It has already been decided Auckland will move to the COVID-19 Protection Framework at Red, and nowhere in the country will start at Green.

COVID-19 Protection Framework guidelines for tertiary and international sector

Today, we published our preliminary guidance and Q+As for tertiary providers operating under the new COVID-19 Protection Framework.

[COVID-19 Protection Framework: tertiary education providers – Education in New Zealand](#)

[Resources for tertiary education providers – Education in New Zealand](#)

We will finalise this guidance once the legislation bringing the COVID-19 Protection Framework into force is in place next week.

This high-level guidance is intended to assist providers to develop protocols and policies, in consultation with students, staff, and relevant representative bodies, on how they will operate at each setting of the Framework.

We recommend tertiary education providers work with their staff, students, and communities to make plans for how to operate under, and transition between, each setting of the Framework. Providers should



ensure there are appropriate information-sharing pathways and necessary wellbeing and safety supports for staff and students in place. Once decided, providers should **inform staff and students of their plans**.

Vaccination date requirements for tertiary at Red

On Tuesday 23 November, the Government confirmed the settings for staff where My Vaccine Pass requirements may apply under the COVID-19 Protection Framework. Under these settings, staff (including volunteers and contractors) can only be onsite at tertiary providers at Red if they are vaccinated.

For tertiary providers in regions that will move to Red when the COVID-19 Protection Framework comes into force, staff **onsite** will need to:

- have had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine to continue working onsite from 3 December, and
- have received both doses of the vaccine by 17 January 2022.

Students and visitors can only be onsite at a tertiary provider at Red from 3 December if they are fully vaccinated (unless exempt) and have a valid My Vaccine Pass.

Tertiary providers can find more information on how to collect, store and use staff and student vaccination verification information in our Q+As [here](#).

For tertiary providers in regions that will move to Orange, in the COVID-19 Protection Framework, there is no vaccination requirement for staff, students or visitors onsite. We will provide further information shortly on the implications that any future move to Red will have for staff vaccination once the Order has been finalised.

NZ Pass Verifier app release

The Ministry of Health has released its NZ Pass Verifier app for businesses and organisations to prepare for the shift to the COVID-19 Protection Framework.

Some providers may want to use the app to verify students' vaccine passes. More information on how to download the app can be found [here](#). You can find more information on collecting, storing and using verification information from vaccine passes in our Q+A [here](#).

New vaccine assessment tool in development

On Tuesday 23 November, the Government announced new legislation to guide decisions on workplace vaccination requirements.

For businesses and organisations where a Government vaccine mandate is not in place, the law will include a vaccination assessment tool that employers can follow when deciding whether they can require vaccination for different types of work. This risk assessment will build on workplace vaccination [guidance already provided by WorkSafe](#). It will be optional to use the tool, and these changes will not override any risk assessments that have already been done.

For more information, see the [Employment New Zealand](#) and [business.govt.nz](#) websites.

Reconnecting New Zealand – the next steps

On Wednesday 24 November, Minister Hipkins announced that fully vaccinated New Zealanders and other eligible travellers can travel to New Zealand from Australia without staying in managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ) from 11.59pm on 16 January 2022. From 30 April 2022 onwards, the Government will remove the requirement for MIQ for most travellers, including foreign nationals, using a staged approach.

There will still be requirements for travellers who do not have to go into MIQ, including a requirement to self-isolate for 7 days. More information on the requirements for travelling to New Zealand when the borders re-open more widely can be found [here](#).



'My Vaccine Pass' update for International students

On 17 November, the Ministry of Health released the My Vaccine Pass.

This pass is an official record of your COVID-19 vaccination status for use within Aotearoa New Zealand. It will allow you access to certain events and venues operating under the COVID-19 Protection Framework (traffic light system), which all of New Zealand will be entering into from 11:59pm 2 December. You can find more information about the traffic light system, and where you will be required to show your My Vaccine Pass [here](#).

Please see the following information that will assist international students over the age of 12 to access their My Vaccine Pass.

International students have three options to apply for their My Vaccine Pass:

Option 1: Apply using a verified RealMe account:

- A verified RealMe account is different to an ordinary RealMe account that may have been used to register for courses or for immigration purposes.
- Ensure to get your RealMe account verified, BEFORE registering for an account on the My Covid Record website.

Option 2: Call 0800 222 478

Operators will verify your identity via verbal verification. You will likely be required to provide:

- your full name, email address, mobile number
- you may be asked to provide passport or other verification ID information, so be sure to have these available when you call.

Call centres now have extended hours, and are currently open from 8am – 8pm, 7 days a week.

Option 3: Apply via a participating Pharmacy:

Participating pharmacies will be able to help you request and print your My Vaccine Pass

- Make sure you have your NHI number with you
- A list of participating pharmacies can be found [here](#).
- Your My Vaccine Pass can also now be mailed to your residential address.

For students who have received overseas vaccines, these will need to be loaded into the COVID Immunisation Register (CIR) before a pass can be generated. Information on CIR application and requirements can be found [here](#).

NZ has approved 23 overseas vaccines that allow for entry into the country, however only 8 vaccines are listed under NZ '[Fully Vaccinated](#)' definitions which will allow you to receive a My Vaccine Pass.

If you have received a vaccine that does not fall under the 8 vaccinations that are required for a 'My Vaccine Pass', these will need to be registered and loaded into the CIR (see bullet above). The process will take around 14 days, and applications can be made now. Note that this process does not guarantee that you will be recognised as fully vaccinated in New Zealand.

Further advice can be found on the Ministry of Health – COVID-19 vaccines [website](#).

Email address for all tertiary COVID-19 related queries

A central mailbox has been set-up for all tertiary queries to the Ministry of Education that are related to COVID-19 - COVID19.Tertiary@education.govt.nz. We have introduced this email address to ensure there is a central point of contact that we can monitor. All future bulletins will be sent from this email address also.

We will continue to meet with the sector regularly.

Things change quickly so stay up to date by following the links below:

- For health advice, please refer to the Ministry of Health's [website](#)



- Please continue to check the [Ministry of Health's locations of interest page](#) to find out if you might have been exposed to COVID-19
- For cross-agency information about COVID-19, including what support is available, health advice, and travel restrictions visit the All-of-Government [website](#)
- For resources in Te Reo Māori, visit [here](#)
- For information to support Pacific communities, visit Ministry for Pacific Peoples [Facebook](#) page
- For resources in [sign language and easy read formats](#)
- To keep updated on travel restrictions and visa information visit Immigration NZ's [website](#)
- Advice for international students in NZ can be found [here](#)
- For additional advice for tertiary providers/whare wānanga visit the Ministry of Education [website](#).

