



Tertiary Provider and International Bulletin

Wednesday 5 October 2021

COVID-19 Update

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COVID-19 Alert Level update: 3-Step approach for Auckland

On Monday 4 October, the Prime Minister announced that Auckland will continue to remain at Alert Level 3, with a weekly review and a phased approach to shifting down the Alert Level 3 restrictions.

Step 1 comes into effect from 11.59pm on 5 October 2021. Steps 2 and 3 will come into effect if, and when, the public health assessment tells us it is safe to do so.

Step 1 - From 11:59pm on 5 October 2021 Auckland remains at Alert Level 3, but:

- outdoor gatherings between 2 households can go ahead, with a maximum of 10 people attending
- travel anywhere in the Auckland region for exercise, sports or recreation outdoors is allowed
- early learning centres can reopen to all children, with a maximum of 10 children in each bubble.

Step 2 - Auckland remains at Alert Level 3, but if, and when, the public health assessment tells us it is safe to do so:

- retail can operate, with customers able to enter premises, wearing face coverings and keeping 2 metres apart
- public facilities like pools, libraries and museums can reopen, with face coverings and 2-metre social distancing required
- outdoor gatherings of up to 25 people can go ahead.

Step 3 - Auckland remains at Alert Level 3, but if, and when, the public health assessment tells us it is safe to do so:

- hospitality venues, like cafes, bars, and restaurants, can reopen with a limit of 50 people
- event facilities like cinemas, casinos, and theatres can open with a limit of 50 people in a defined space, wearing face coverings and 2-metre physical distancing
- close contact businesses, like hairdressers, barbers and beauty salons, can reopen, with workers wearing face coverings
- social gatherings, indoors and outdoors, can take place with a limit of 50 people in a defined space.



Updated [Alert Level 3](#) information is available on the Unite Against COVID-19 website.

The Step 1 changes do not require any updates to our detailed guidance for tertiary education providers for Alert Level 3, which is available on our [website](#).

Alert Level settings for Waikato Alert Level 3 areas

The above changes to Alert Level 3 restrictions do not apply to the Waikato Alert Level 3 areas (Raglan, Te Kauwhata, Huntly, Ngāruawāhia and Hamilton). The alert level for these areas will remain in place for five days and will be reviewed on Friday 8 October. For general Alert Level advice for those in an area of the Waikato at Alert Level 3, please see the Unite Against COVID-19 website [here](#).

Cross-boundary travel to and from Waikato

The regional boundary between Waikato and Auckland is maintained.

Travel in and out of the Waikato Alert Level 3 area is limited to permitted reasons. You can cross into the Waikato Alert Level 3 area from an Alert Level 2 area to work in any business or service which is open in the Alert Level 3 area. But you cannot cross from the Waikato Alert Level 3 area to work in an Alert Level 2 area, except for work in permitted businesses and services.

If travelling in and out of the Waikato Alert Level 3 area, we *recommend* carrying a letter from your employer confirming place of work and need to travel. Other than across the boundary with Auckland, you are not *required* to provide evidence of a recent test and formal business travel documents.

Minor clarifications to our detailed guidance for tertiary education providers to reflect these changes may follow.

Changes to Alert Level 2 settings

The rest of New Zealand outside of the affected Waikato areas and Auckland region is currently at Alert Level 2.

The Government announced changes to the Alert Level 2 settings today. There will no longer be gathering limits for hospitality venues (though physical distancing requirements remain at these venues, and social gathering limits of 100 will remain in place). The 'no standing' requirement on public transport will also be lifted. More information will be available on the [Unite Against Covid website](#).

These changes do not affect our detailed guidelines for tertiary education organisations.

Non-NZ Citizens must be vaccinated to enter New Zealand

From 1 November 2021, anyone entering New Zealand (17 years and over), who is not a New Zealand citizen, will require a full course of any of the 22 COVID-19 vaccines approved by a government or approval authority. The last dose will need to be at least 14 days prior to arrival in New Zealand. This will apply to international students who are entering New Zealand. The requirement will not apply to New Zealand citizens, children under the age of 17, and those who are unable to be vaccinated for medical reasons.

The Ministry of Health has provided information: [Travel to New Zealand | Unite against COVID-19 \(covid19.govt.nz\)](#). The Government will provide more information soon about acceptable evidence of vaccination or medical exemption.

The COVID-19 [Technical Advisory Group](#) has approved the below vaccines:

Company	Vaccine Name	Approval
Anhui Zhifei Longcom	ZF2001	Approved in 2 countries
Bharat Biotech	Covaxin	Approved in 9 countries



CanSino	Ad5-nCoV	Approved in 9 countries
Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (CIGB)	CIGB-66	Approved in 3 countries
Chumakov Center	KoviVac	Approved in 1 country
FBRI	EpiVacCorona	Approved in 2 countries
Gamaleya	Sputnik Light	Approved in 16 countries
Gamaleya	Sputnik V	Approved in 71 countries
Janssen (Johnson & Johnson)	Ad26.COV2.S	Approved in 70 countries
Kazakhstan RIBSP	QazVac	Approved in 2 countries
Medigen	MVC-COV1901	Approved in 1 country
Minhai Biotechnology Co	SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine (Vero Cells)	Approved in 1 country
Moderna	mRNA-1273	Approved in 76 countries
Oxford/AstraZeneca	AZD1222	Approved in 122 countries
Pfizer/BioNTech	BNT162b2	Approved in 100 countries
Serum Institute of India	Covishield (Oxford/AstraZeneca formulation)	Approved in 46 countries
Shifa Pharmed Industrial Co	COVID-19 Inactivated Vaccine	Approved in 1 country
Sinopharm (Beijing)	BBIBP-CorV (Vero Cells)	Approved in 65 countries
Sinopharm (Wuhan)	Inactivated (Vero Cells)	Approved in 2 countries
Sinovac	CoronaVac	Approved in 40 countries
Takeda	TAK-919 (Moderna formulation)	Approved in 1 country
Zyudus Cadila	ZyCoV-D	Approved in 1 country

For latest information please see the link: [Vaccines – COVID19 Vaccine Tracker \(trackvaccines.org\)](https://trackvaccines.org/)

Changes to QR Code Poster display requirements

New changes to QR poster display requirements come into effect on 11.59pm Tuesday 5 October. These changes include:

- Additional copies of a COVID-19 QR code will need to be displayed in places –other than the entranceway - throughout businesses and locations that are already required to display them. This is in addition to an already required QR code displayed at the main entrance.
- QR code posters are required to be kept in a good condition.
- The QR code must not be altered in a way that makes it unclear that it has been issued by the NZ Government for the purposes of contact tracing. Businesses and locations must use the official COVID-19 QR code posters issued by the Ministry of Health. This also ensures people know the QR code they are scanning links to the COVID tracer app and is for contact tracing purposes.

Kai, essential items and financial support

If you need food urgently, your local foodbank may be able to help. [Find your local foodbank.](#)

- You can get financial assistance for food through Work and Income.
 - www.workandincome.govt.nz
 - Online MyMSD
 - 0800 559 009 (MSD General Line)
 - 0800 552 002 (Seniors 65+)
 - 0800 88 99 00 (Students)
- Support for older people - Anyone can call Age Concern New Zealand on 0800 652 105 to get advice and support.



- Support for whānau - Whānau Ora helps whānau access health and welfare services, and meet basic needs for food, accommodation, heating, internet connectivity, water and sewerage. You can contact Whānau Ora on 0800 929 282.
- Support from the Student Volunteer Army - For those in self isolation or who have no other way to access food, the Student Volunteer Army has a Grocery Delivery Service.
- You can also use the COVID-19 financial support tool on the Unite Against COVID-19 website to see what support is available to you. [Use the financial support tool](#).
- [Learn more about how to access food and essential items](#).

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.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

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 [COVID-19: Contact tracing locations of interest | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

For cross-agency information about COVID-19, including what support is available, health advice, and travel restrictions visit the All-of-Government website <https://www.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/>

For resources in Te Reo Māori, visit <https://covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/translations/te-reo-maori/>

For information to support Pacific communities, visit <https://www.facebook.com/MinistryforPacificPeoples/>

For resources in [sign language and easy read formats](#).

To keep updated on travel restrictions and visa information visit <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/media-centre/news-notifications/coronavirus-update-inz-response>

Advice for international students in NZ <https://naumainz.studyinnewzealand.govt.nz/help-and-advice/healthcare/the-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know>

For additional advice for tertiary providers/whare wānanga visit the Ministry of Education website <http://www.education.govt.nz/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-3/>

