



DFES General Circular No: 181/2020

20 October 2021

MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATIONS FOR DFES STAFF

WA Premier Mark McGowan MLA has today [announced](#) that COVID-19 vaccinations will be mandatory for employees working in a range of agencies and industries, including fire and emergency services staff.

Under the new State Government's policy, all DFES corporate and operational staff must have received their first dose by 1 December and be fully vaccinated by 31 December 2021.

This mandate does not apply to fire and emergency service volunteers. For a full breakdown of each group, see [mandatory COVID-19 vaccination information](#).

The Premier's direction is separate to the development of the DFES Infection Prevention and Control Policy and will be delivered by a public health order under the State of Emergency declaration. This means the direction has been made by the Chief Health Officer and therefore DFES, as an employer, must comply.

This mandate means all staff will have to provide evidence of their vaccination to DFES. This can be done via Employee kiosk by simply uploading your [proof of vaccination](#). A [step-by-step guide](#) has also been developed as part of our Infection Prevention and Control Policy.

After 31 December 2021, people who attend a DFES workplace when they are not fully vaccinated could face fines of up to \$20,000, while the employer could face fines of up to \$100,000. For more information view [mandatory vaccination Frequently Asked Questions](#).

As the State Government's direction does not apply to volunteers, DFES will continue with its plans to implement its Infection Prevention and Control Policy. This policy will still be important for the health and safety of all staff, volunteers, and the broader community. More information about the progression of the policy will be released in the coming days.

While DFES strongly encourages everyone to get vaccinated and supports the State Government's effort to protect Western Australians, I appreciate this news may come as a surprise to some staff. Our [Wellness Team](#) offers a range of support services and resources, while counselling support is also available under the Employment Assistance Program.

Thank you for your continuous support.

**DARREN KLEMM AFSM
COMMISSIONER**