



DFES General Circular No: 195/2021

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Chief Health Officer issues mandatory vaccination directions for fire and emergency services

The Western Australian Chief Health Officer has today issued directions that vaccinations will be mandatory for all DFES staff and volunteers.

The directions require all DFES corporate and operational staff to have received their first dose by 1 December and be fully vaccinated by 31 December 2021.

Volunteers have now been included in Group 2 of the Chief Health Officer's mandate, as they are considered a critical service necessary for the health, safety or welfare of the community.

The directions mean all volunteers need to have received their first vaccination by 31 December and be fully vaccinated by 31 January 2022.

DFES has been consulting with unions, volunteer associations and WALGA since the government's announcement, and will further discuss the implications of these directions over the coming days.

The best way to make sure we can continue to keep Western Australia safe is to have a fully vaccinated workforce. All Western Australians have a right to expect that when they're in danger, emergency services will be there to help. Fighting COVID-19 has always been bigger than any individual and we all need to stand together by getting vaccinated. I'd like to thank all staff and volunteers who are already vaccinated.

You can read about the different groups and industries included in the directions [here](#). If you have any questions, please send them to COVID19@dfes.wa.gov.au.

Providing evidence of your vaccination status is an important part of complying with the Chief Health Officer's mandate. There are instructions on how to obtain this evidence in Circular [186/2021](#). Staff are required to upload this evidence to Employee Kiosk – instructions on this process can be found [here](#).



Staff and volunteers are required to provide the COVID-19 Digital Certificate that can be obtained from Medicare.

DFES is currently reviewing the directions and will provide more information as soon as possible. Frequently Asked Questions for both staff and volunteers will be uploaded to the Intranet and Hub respectively once finalised.

Lastly, I would like to remind all staff and volunteers to treat each other with respect as the vaccination mandate comes into effect. There will be a zero-tolerance approach to any bullying, harassment or discrimination regarding an individual's vaccination status. Everyone has the right to feel safe, respected and valued at work, as outlined in the [DFES Code of Conduct](#).

DARREN KLEMM AFSM
COMMISSIONER