



Australian Government

COVID-19 VACCINATION

Keep your disability workforce up to date by circulating this alert widely in your organisation

Disability provider alert

24 August 2021

Priority Pfizer vaccination blitz for people aged 16 – 39 years in greater Sydney

The NSW government has released [a booking link](#) for a Pfizer vaccination blitz for people aged 16-39 years. The only criteria is for people in that age group to live in one of the 12 LGAs listed below.

- Bayside
- Blacktown
- Burwood
- Campbelltown
- Canterbury-Bankstown
- Cumberland
- Fairfield
- Georges River
- Liverpool
- Parramatta
- Penrith
- Strathfield

This is a great vaccination opportunity for people with disability and disability workers

The NSW government have large centres centrally located which will be vaccinating hundreds of thousands of people in the next few weeks. This is the most efficient way to quickly achieve maximum population coverage. **Disability and aged care workers are encouraged to make a booking as a matter of priority.**

Use this link for further information to make a booking in the relevant LGA: [Priority COVID-19 vaccination booking for 16 to 39 year-olds | NSW Government](#)

Please distribute this information to your workforce.

On 19 August 2021, the Prime Minister announced that Cabinet agreed that from 30 August 2021, individuals aged between 16 and 39 years will be eligible for the Pfizer vaccine. More information can be found on the [Department of Health website](#).

Victorian Government announces vaccination blitz for aged care and disability workforce

Residential aged care workers and residential disability care workers will be provided with priority access to COVID-19 vaccination through all [Victorian vaccination clinics](#) from Monday 23 August until Sunday 29 August 2021.

Key points:

- All workers in residential aged care and disability care settings are eligible, including staff, paid and unpaid carers and volunteers.
- People attending sites infrequently such as management, therapists/practitioners, advocates and maintenance workers are all eligible.
- Priority access at vaccination centres will be available by active queue management, however it is recommended workers book a priority appointment by calling **1800 675 398**.

Action required:

1. Disability service providers need to provide a proof of eligibility letter to all eligible employees, contractors and volunteers as soon as possible. It is vital they receive this letter as a digital or printed copy is one option for proof of eligibility at the vaccination centre.
2. It is possible to arrange a group vaccination of a site workforce at a state vaccination centre by completing the [registration of interest](#).

When your workforce is vaccinated, they protect themselves, the people they support, and their own families and loved ones.

Information on current hubs offering vaccination services

The Life Without Barriers (LWB) vaccination hub in King Street, Newcastle ceased operating last Friday 20 August 2021.

Anyone with an existing booking at the Newcastle LWB hub has been advised of the new hub location opening today in Wallsend in Newcastle. Limited appointments are available initially as existing bookings are worked through.

There will also be a second hub in Newcastle, opening on 30 August, a hub with Coastlink in Woy Woy opening 3 September and another hub in Tuggerah open on 6 September. Locations have been selected for their accessibility and these hubs will allow both walk-ins and appointments.

Enquiries regarding appointments at these hubs for people eligible under Phase 1a and disability workers can be directed to nswbookings@aspennmedical.com

There are number of vaccination clinics/hubs operating across states and territories. Please find information listed below that is publicly available with booking information. If you have a vaccination clinic/hub that we can promote please email our inbox:

COVID19VacTFDisabilityServices1A@Health.gov.au so that we can include in this publication.

Please distribute this information to your workforce.

Table 1 Hub information by state and territory

New South Wales

Provider	Address	Suburb	State	Opening Date	Days/Open hours	Booking Information/ QR code
Lifestyle Solutions	L2, 11-15 Deane Street	Burwood	NSW	9 August	9 am - 4.30pm Mon - Fri	
Lifestyle Solutions	37 Fern Street	Newcastle	NSW	9 August	9 am - 4:30pm Mon-Fri	
HCA	Woodville Alliance, 44 Mandarin Street	East Fairfield	NSW	23 August	9 am - 4.30pm Mon-Fri	Latest News – Pfizer vaccinations for RACF and NDIS (swsphn.com.au)

Tasmania

Provider	Address	Suburb	State	Opening Date	Days/Open hours	Booking Information/ QR code
State Health	330-336 Invermay Rd	Mowbray	Tas	12-Jul	Open	To book an appointment people should call the Public Health Hotline on 1800 671 738 and let the operator know they want to book into an 'Additional Support Clinic' or 'Quiet Day clinic'.
State Health	15 Derwent St	Blundstone Arena, Bellerive	Tas	12-Jul	Open	To book an appointment people should call the Public Health Hotline on 1800 671 738 and let the operator know they want to book into an 'Additional Support Clinic' or 'Quiet Day clinic'.

Queensland

Provider	Address	Suburb	State	Opening Date	Days/Open hours	Booking Information/ QR code
Endeavour Foundation	38 Railway Parade	Geebung	QLD	16 June	9 am - 4.30pm (Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri)	Geebung (endeavour.com.au)
Endeavour Foundation	100 Herries Street	Toowoomba	QLD	2 July	9 am - 4.30pm	Toowoomba (endeavour.com.au)
Lifestyle Solutions	Suite 203/58-60 Manila Street	Beenleigh	QLD	9 August	9 am-4:30pm Mon - Fri	
Aspen	Westfield Chermside 90 Kittyhawk Dr Suite C9, Floor 1	Chermside	QLD	2 Aug	8.30 am – 4 pm (Mon – Wed) 11 am – 7 pm (Thurs) 7 am – 3 -m (Fri)	Appointments are required. For assistance, call 0439217836 or email qldmetrovox@aspenmedical.com Aspen Medical - 1A and 1B Vaccination Clinic at Westfield Chermside

Victoria

Provider	Address	Suburb	State	Opening Date	Days/Open hours	Booking Information/ QR code
Aspen	258 Settlement Road	Thomastown	Vic	19-May	Mon to Fri, 8.30am to 3.30pm	https://www.nds.org.au/news/accessing-covid-19-supports-and-the-thomastown-vaccination-hub

South Australia

Provider	Address	Suburb	State	Opening Date	Days/Open hours	Booking Information/ QR code
HCA	West Lakes Tennis Club 21 Edwin Street	West Lakes Shore	SA	29 July	9 am – 4 pm (Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri)	To book an appointment, you need to be either an RACF staff member or a NDIS staff member, and contact Adelaide PHN's COVID-19 Liaison Officer via covid19@adelaidephn.com.au
Minda	12-16 King George Avenue	North Brighton	SA	16-Aug		HealthEngine - Booking Form - Aspen Medical Disability Vaccination Clinic North Brighton (Minda)

Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommendations on children 12 -15 years of age

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) **statement of 2 August 2021** advised that children aged 12-15 years with a range of immunocompromising or other underlying conditions are eligible to have a COVID-19 vaccination.

ATAGI has provided more information about their advice on 12-15 year old eligibility.

The following groups of children aged 12–15 years should be prioritised for vaccination using the Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine:

- *those on the National Disability Insurance Scheme and/or living with significant disability requiring frequent assistance with activities of daily living: Including down syndrome, muscular dystrophy, traumatic brain and spinal cord injury, severe intellectual disability;*
- those with specified medical conditions (severe asthma, diabetes, obesity, cardiac circulatory congenital anomalies, epilepsy and those who are immunocompromised);
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 12-15; and
- all children aged 12 to 15 in remote communities, as part of broader community outreach vaccination programs.

For further information refer to the Minister for Social Services **press release dated 23 August 2021**

Getting your vaccine: information for people with intellectual disability

Join us for a meeting for people with an intellectual disability and supporters. The webinar is hosted by the Australian Government Department of Health and supported by Inclusion Australia.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the importance of getting a COVID-19 vaccine and answer questions from people with intellectual disability and supporters.

Discussing COVID-19 vaccination will be:

- Professor Nick Lennox, Senior Medical Advisor for Disability & Health at the Department of Health. Nick has worked as a medical practitioner with people with intellectual disability over many years.
- Tara Elliffe, a self-advocate from NSW who has had a Covid job. Tara will talk about her experience and why getting the job was important to her.

A staff member from Inclusion Australia will also help with questions and other things.

An Auslan interpreter and live captioning will be available during the meeting.

The meeting will be hosted over a platform called Webex. Once you have registered, we will send a link to your email address to view the webinar on Webex.

If you don't have Webex on your computer, it doesn't matter. You can still view the webinar through the online link.

The meeting will be recorded so people can watch it later on the Department of Health's website.

You can register to attend this webinar at this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/168185935661>

Webinar for people with disability, their families and carers

The Department of Health hosted a webinar for people with disability, their families and carers on Thursday 5 August 2021.

The webinar was well attended with more than 280 participants. Attendees asked the panel a wide range of questions. These questions covered vaccines, roll-out of vaccines to people with disability and disability workers as well as the 12 to 15 year old age group eligibility. It was a highly interactive session.

The webinar can be viewed on the [Department of Health website](#).

There is a transcript with the video at the link. There is also a link to the recording from the main [people with disability vaccine page](#).

Reminder: New Vaccine Administration Service (VAS) Providers have joined the Phase 1a in-reach program

Two new VAS providers have joined the program. They are International SOS and Oceana.

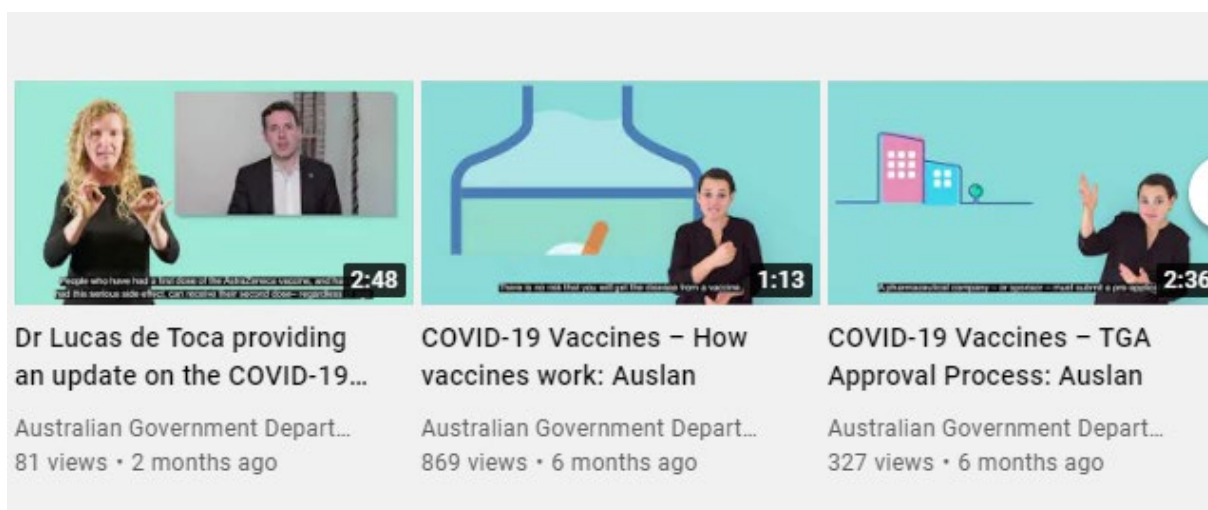
These providers join Aspen and Health Care Australia, two organisations that are already providing vaccination in-reach services.

Disability service providers can expect to receive calls from these VAS providers to arrange in-reach visits.

Department of Health YouTube site

The Department of Health's YouTube site has great resources about COVID-19 for people with disability.

Included on the site is a collection of AUSLAN and other resources with information about COVID-19 and the vaccination program. Below is a sample of videos that can be found on the [Department of Health YouTube website](#).



The above image demonstrates graphically Auslan interpreters explaining various aspects of the COVID-19 vaccination program, as hosted on the Department of Health's YouTube site.

Social post

The below social media post is for you to distribute through your channels. Accompanying images are attached to the email that was sent to you, or can be accessed on the provider alert edition page [at this link](#).

Post 1

Disability providers

Disability and carer providers play a critical role in supporting the vaccination of people with disability, workers and carers. Let's continue to encourage the disability community to get vaccinated. Information about the COVID-19 vaccine is available in various accessible formats on the Department of Health website at [Information for people with disability about COVID-19 vaccines | Australian Government Department of Health](#)

Post 2

Disability workers and carers

Are you a disability worker or carer? A COVID-19 vaccine will help to protect yourself, your family and people you care for. Don't delay. Book in for your vaccination today. To find out if you are eligible and how to book in for your vaccination go to the Department of Health's [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker](#) or contact the National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccination Helpline on **1800 020 080**.

Post 3

NDIS participants

All NDIS participants aged 16 years and over are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. If you haven't had your vaccination yet, book in today. Talk to your GP/doctor, or visit the Department of Health website to find out how to get a COVID-19 vaccine: <https://bit.ly/3CTsmDZ>

Post 4

Carers of NDIS participants

All disability workers and carers (aged over 16 years) of NDIS participants are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. If you haven't had yours yet, don't delay. Book in for your vaccination today. A COVID-19 vaccine will help to protect yourself, your family and the people you care for. To book a COVID-19 vaccine appointment, use the [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker](#) on the Department of Health website or contact the National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccination Helpline on **1800 020 080**.

Post 5

General disability community

As COVID-19 continues to impact our lives, it can especially affect people with disability and their families, carers and support workers. If you haven't had your COVID-19 vaccine yet, don't delay! To find out if you are eligible and how to book your vaccination, go to the Department of Health's [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker](#) or contact the National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccination Helpline on **1800 020 080**.

Post 6

National phone line for people with disability (Disability Gateway)

Do you need information and advice about COVID-19? People with disability can contact the Disability Gateway to get free, fact-checked information about COVID-19. The Disability Gateway can help families, carers and support workers too. Call the Disability Gateway 1800 643 787 or visit <https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/coronavirus>

Resources to support people getting vaccinated

The Department of Health encourages disability providers to have vaccination resources available in **Easy Read** format and in **other languages** for people getting vaccinated. These resources cover all aspects of the vaccination process including preparing for COVID-19 vaccination and the period after the COVID-19 vaccination. You can download and print these from the Department of Health website.

For more information call the National coronavirus and COVID-19 vaccination helpline on 1800 020 080.