

## Residential aged care staff vaccination

Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 is the best thing we can do to protect ourselves and the South Australian community.

**From 17 September 2021**, all staff, contractors and volunteers of Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACF) are required to have received **at least one dose** of a TGA approved COVID-19 vaccine **and have received, or have evidence of a booking to receive, a second dose**.

To ensure that aged care workers can be fully vaccinated quickly, SA Health is now making the Pfizer vaccine available to all people working in a RACF, regardless of age.

When attending your appointment, you must complete a declaration of eligibility to verify that you are currently employed, contracted to work, or volunteering at a RACF. Please bring an employee ID card, timesheet or other proof of employment to your appointment.

### What aged care workers are eligible?

All aged care workers and volunteers in aged care are eligible to be vaccinated.

In South Australia, all Residential Aged Care workers eligible **under Phase 1a** are now able to be vaccinated with the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of age.

This includes all people working in a residential aged care facility who are responsible for resident care, support and services for residents, maintenance and administration, including:

- > nursing and personal care workers
- > GPs, allied health and other healthcare professionals
- > students on placement
- > kitchen staff
- > cleaning and laundry staff
- > transport drivers
- > garden and maintenance staff
- > administration/office staff
- > volunteers engaged by the RACF

Staff must be employed, hired, retained, contracted or volunteering to provide services under the control of the organisation to work in an aged care facility. This includes those employed through recruitment agencies, contractors, and students on placement at a facility.

Proof of employment or volunteer status will be required.

### What proof of employment is required?

You will need to bring proof of employment to your appointment, such as a payslip, letter from your employer or current work ID card showing your employment in a residential aged care facility.

## **Where can residential aged care workers and volunteers get vaccinated?**

Dedicated vaccination clinics have been established in Highgate Park, Enfield, Medindie, North Brighton and Pooraka for Aged Care workers and volunteers. Speak to your employer for more information.

Alternatively, you can book an appointment at the Elizabeth, Noarlunga, Wayville or Women's and Children's Hospital vaccination clinics, or at one of the many regional locations.

- > **16 to 49 years – [Book online](#).**
- > **50 years and over – Book by calling 1800 253 787 (9am to 5pm, 7 days).**

If you can't get through on the phone, or are experiencing a lengthy delay, please select the call back option and someone will return your call and book you in.

## **Who is not considered to be 'residential aged care staff' for the purpose of receiving the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine?**

- > Care persons such as those who frequently and regularly provide care and companionship to an individual resident.
- > Those who work on an infrequent or as needs basis in a residential aged care facility such as plumbers, electricians, delivery people, or health professionals.
- > Those who only provide aged care services in a community or home setting, including those aged care services funded under the home care packages (HCP) program or the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP).

## **I'm an agency healthcare worker, undertaking irregular shifts in residential aged care facility. Am I eligible?**

Yes, agency staff working in a Residential Aged Care Facility can be vaccinated now with the Pfizer vaccine. Please book as above and bring proof of employment.

## **I'm a contractor to aged care facilities, am I eligible?**

Yes, people who are contracted to provide services in a Residential Aged Care Facility on a regular basis can be vaccinated now with the Pfizer vaccine, for example staff employed through a recruitment agency or GPs and other health professionals who routinely provide care within the RACF. Please book as above and bring proof of employment.

Those who work on an infrequent or as needs basis in a residential aged care facility are not eligible, for example plumbers, electricians, delivery people or health professionals.

## **I received my first dose onsite but missed the second dose, how do I book my second dose of Pfizer?**

If you have already had one dose of the vaccine, you need to have the second dose with the same vaccine so please keep your planned second dose appointment if you have one.

If your first dose given was the AstraZeneca vaccine, you need to have your second dose with AstraZeneca. Staff of all ages can book their second AstraZeneca vaccine [online](#).

If your first dose was the Pfizer vaccine, you can book your second dose via the following:

- 16 to 49 years – Book [online](#).
- 50 years and over – Book by calling 1800 253 787 (9am to 5pm, 7 days).

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For more information

**SA COVID-19 Information Line**  
**1800 253 787 (9am to 5pm, 7 days)**  
**[covidvaccine.sa.gov.au](https://www.covidvaccine.sa.gov.au)**

**Last updated 18 August 2021**

