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# Singapore Travel Arrangement – Advice to Industry

# Entry to Australia opened up to fully vaccinated Singaporean citizens

# From 21 November 2021 new arrangements apply

From 00:01 AEDT on 21 November 2021, 'fully vaccinated' Singapore citizens with a valid visa will be allowed to travel quarantine-free in to Australian states and territories that are ready to accept them. To meet the requirements of the arrangement, Singaporean citizens must have departed Singapore on the final leg of their journey to Australia. From 21 November 2021, the jurisdictions of New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory will commence participation in the new Singapore travel arrangement.

# **Fully Vaccinated**

To meet the requirements for quarantine-free travel, Singaporeans will need to be fully vaccinated in accordance with the Australian definition for fully vaccinated. The details of Australia's definition for fully vaccinated is provided in the *Advice to Industry – Re-opening the International Border* document.

Airlines will need to verify that Singaporean passengers meet the Australian definition for fully vaccinated at check-in. The same rules which airlines currently follow for verifying the vaccination status of Australians and permanent residents will also apply to Singaporean citizens seeking quarantine-free travel to Australia. Further details on the rules for verifying the vaccination status of passengers can be found in the *Advice to Industry – Re-opening the International Border* document.

# Evidence of a negative COVID-19 PCR test for inbound Singaporean passengers

Evidence of a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test taken within 3 days of scheduled departure is required for inbound travel to Australia (the first flight if there are one or more connecting flights booked for travel to Australia), unless an <u>exemption</u> applies. Further details on the PCR test requirements for all travellers can be found in the *Advice to Industry – Re-opening the International Border* document.

# Eligible: Singaporeans departing Singapore

Only fully vaccinated Singaporean citizens who are departing Singapore are permitted to undertake exemption free travel to Australia under these arrangements. This includes Singaporeans travelling to Australia on flights that have transited Singapore, provided the final connecting flight to Australia departs from Singapore.

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# Not eligible: Singaporeans departing from countries other than Singapore; and travellers who are not citizens of Singapore.

These arrangements only apply to Singaporean citizens departing from Singapore.

Singaporean citizens travelling to Australia from countries other than Singapore will still require an approved travel exemption to come to Australia. A travel exemption can be requested through the Department of Home Affairs' Travel Exemption Portal.

Travellers departing Singapore who are not Singaporean citizens will also continue to require an approved travel exemption to come to Australia. This includes family members of Singaporean Citizens (including dependent children). Please note that there will not be any specific travel exemption arrangements in place for this cohort.

# Children aged 12-17

From 21 November, unvaccinated or partially vaccinated Singaporean children aged 12-17 years old who travel to Australia directly from Singapore with parent/guardians who are all fully vaccinated, will be exempt from passenger caps and eligible for reduced quarantine requirements when they arrive in New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory.

If the child is travelling with adult family members who do not meet the definition of fully vaccinated, then the entire family group will be subject to managed quarantine and passenger caps.

# **Airline Responsibilities**

From 00:01 AEDT on 21 November 2021, airlines will receive an 'Ok to board' message through the Advanced Passenger Processing (APP) system for <u>all</u> Singaporean citizens (who hold a valid Visa) travelling to Australia, regardless of their country of departure. This means the 'Ok to board' message will be shown for Singaporean citizens travelling to Australia from countries other than Singapore. This approach has been taken to automate the processing of passengers, a necessary requirement to manage the expected increase in passenger volumes resulting from the new Singapore travel arrangement.

Where a Singaporean citizen is attempting to travel to Australia and they are not transiting through or departing from Singapore, the passenger should not be boarded (even when an 'Ok to board' message has been received) unless they have an individual travel exemption confirmed by the Border Operations Centre (BOC).

It is recognised that this is a manual workaround requiring effort from airlines. A very low number of Singaporean citizens typically travel to Australia from countries other than Singapore. The anticipated low volumes are expected to minimise this manual effort.