

20 December 2021

POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION TESTING FOR FRONTLINE AIRPORT WORKERS

1. **With effect from 20 December 2021 onwards, all enterprises in the aviation sector (“Enterprises”) must comply with the mandatory requirements set out in this notice. For avoidance of doubt, the mandatory requirements are specified in the paragraphs below prefaced with the words ‘[Mandatory]’.**

Background

2. In view of the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, certain countries and/or regions have been specified on the internet website at <https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg/shn-and-swab-summary> as places which, if included in a person’s 14-day travel history, will result in such person being disallowed from entering into Singapore (unless he or she is a Singaporean Citizen or Permanent Resident) (the “**Specified Countries/Regions**”)¹. Persons (including Singaporean Citizens and Permanent Residents) that have a 14-day travel history that includes the Specified Countries/Regions are referred to as “**Specified Travellers**”.
3. As there is increased risk of being infected with the Omicron variant of COVID-19 for employees who have contact with Specified Travellers, enterprises are required to ensure that the relevant employees and persons who work under their direction (please refer to paragraph 5 for details) undergo regular Polymerase Chain Reaction (“**PCR**”) testing **regardless** of their vaccination and recovery status².
4. The testing and the other mandatory requirements set out in this notice are imposed on Enterprises under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020. Failure to comply with the requirements set out herein may result in prosecution and/or other enforcement action, including suspension/closure of operations³. Checks will be conducted by enforcement teams to verify if Enterprises have complied with the mandatory requirements set out in this notice.

¹ As of the date of this notice (02 December 2021), the countries and/or regions that have been specified are Botswana, Eswatini, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa and Zimbabwe. The list of countries and/or regions may be changed from time to time and enterprises should keep themselves updated on the prevailing list.

² All individuals, including those who (a) are fully vaccinated with an approved COVID-19 vaccine, (b) have recovered from a COVID-19 infection, or (c) are certified by a medical practitioner to be medically ineligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19, are required to comply with the PCR RRT regime.

³ Enterprises are reminded to comply with the other requirements imposed under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020 and implement the Safe Management Measures (“**SMMs**”) as set out on the [COVID Gobusiness website](#). They are also reminded to comply with the relevant [SMMs](#) that have been set out by Government Agencies.

PCR Testing Requirements for Enterprises

5. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises must ensure that all employees⁴ and persons who work under their direction⁵ who meet any of the following criteria and classified in the moderate-risk and high-risk category (individually “Worker” or collectively, “**Workers**”), undergo a PCR test for COVID-19 once every seven (7) days at a testing centre arranged by CAAS⁶ (the “**PCR RRT Requirement**”).

Criteria
(1) Workers who normally interact with travellers (2) Workers whose work involves handling of travellers’ belongings (3) Workers whose work involves touching of surfaces that travellers come into contact with; and who are in the Moderate-Risk (e.g. less or no frequent direct interactions with travellers, workers who were previously on 7-day FET-RRT) and High-Risk category (e.g. daily or frequent interactions with travellers/foreign crew, workers who are already on 7-day PCR-RRT)

6. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises shall:
- (1) not allow any Worker who has obtained a PCR test result showing that he or she is positive for COVID-19 infection to enter or remain at the workplace;
 - (2) only allow the Worker described in paragraph 6(1) to enter or remain in the workplace if he or she has been subsequently assessed by a medical practitioner to be non-infectious and discharged based on the Ministry of Health’s guidelines, or has received a discharge memo under the Home Recovery Programme.
 - (3) Inform recovered workers, who were tested C+ within last six months, to not self-isolate unless told to do by MOH.
7. For more details on the PCR testing regime, please contact us at CAAS_RRT_Helpdesk@caas.gov.sg for further clarifications.

⁴ This includes both full and part time employees.

⁵ This includes contractors (e.g. cleaners), subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace. This also includes business owners and store managers that work at the workplace.

⁶ CAAS will inform you of the testing centre that you are assigned to.