

U3A North Gold Coast Inc.

Member Safety Requirements & COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

Work Health and Safety (WHS) legislation requires U3A North Gold Coast Inc (referred further as "U3A") members follow health and safety procedures to protect themselves and others while participating in learning or business activities.

U3A offers face to face services which makes it more susceptible to the spread of coronavirus. We also are an organisation offering learning to retired and semi-retired members of the community.

If there is an active case of coronavirus at our premises, this has the effect of placing a significant amount of people in our community at risk. We consider this in light of the large face to face group sessions (consisting of seniors) that we offer in our programs.

Members are reminded, while engaged in U3A activities, they have a duty to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and to not adversely affect the health and safety of others.

What is the Policy?

In line with the Queensland Government directives, U3A is required to keep its premises safe and minimise the risk of infection and transmission of coronavirus.

U3A has decided that in the best interests of the community and the safety of those who attend classes, that all those who are eligible for COVID-19 vaccination and wish to physically attend U3A classes, **must** be fully vaccinated or have a medical exemption from vaccination.

Conditions of entry

The following conditions of entry to physical attendance classes apply:

1. attendees comply with any COVID-19 Safe Plan; and
2. those who are eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination are vaccinated; and
3. evidence of COVID-19 vaccination status is provided.

U3A will not refuse entry to individuals who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons (proof of medical exemption must be provided).

What happens when I enter?

Upon entering U3A, individuals are required to provide proof of vaccination or evidence of a medical exemption to receiving immunisation.

There are two ways to show proof of your vaccination:

1. Your COVID-19 digital certificate which shows proof of your COVID-19 vaccinations that you can add to a digital wallet.
2. Your immunisation history statement which lists your COVID-19 vaccinations.

U3A will not keep a record of attendees COVID-19 vaccination status, the purpose of providing evidence of vaccination is merely to determine whether entry into U3A classes should be allowed.

If an attendee has a medical exemption from vaccination, then they must show evidence of that upon seeking entry, such as a medical certificate from their medical practitioner.

Feeling Unsure?

This policy is not intended to discriminate or prevent anyone from accessing U3A services, rather it is focused on ensuring everyone's health and safety.

If you are unsure if being vaccinated is safe for you or you are unsure which COVID-19 vaccine to get, please make an appointment to see your doctor to discuss.

Other Control Measures

It is important to remember that even if you are vaccinated, there is a continuing risk that you may still get or spread coronavirus because the vaccines do not provide 100% protection.

The U3A COVID-19 Safety Plan requires members to follow the safety procedures, use Personal Protective Equipment if required and observe hygiene practices.

These hygiene practices include:

- Stay away from the U3A business environment if you are unwell and not fit for class, or have been in contact with someone else suspected of being unwell.
- Frequent hand washing or hand sanitising – including before entering a classroom or office and on exit of same.
- Limit contact with others by avoiding physical contact such as shaking hands or hugs.
- Continue to keep physical distancing in a classroom - minimum 1.5mtrs between other participants and 4 m 2 space around persons.
- Covering mouths while coughing or sneezing.
- Using disposable tissues when blowing nose.
- Use personal protective equipment such as masks or gloves as appropriate.

- Using suitable rubbish bins for waste.

The Labrador Community Centre has COVID-19 Safety requirements for all who use their facilities. You are required to follow these instructions whilst attending the centre.

The primary requirement is to use the Contract Tracing App. Several have been placed around the complex for your convenience.

Kitchen facilities continue to be closed. Members are advised they need to provide their own refreshment. Food and drink, other than water, is not permitted in classrooms.

Changes to this policy

This policy may be amended or withdrawn by the Management Committee at our discretion. We will continue to keep the situation in relation to vaccinations under review in our ongoing COVID-19 risk assessments and review this policy in accordance with any material changes.