



## UPDATED ADVICE FOR COMMERCIAL MARITIME CREW FOR COVID-19 HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

**4 March 2022**

In 2020, the Australian Border Force (ABF) put in place procedures to process maritime crew arrivals, where the ABF would restrict all arriving crew on board the vessel for 14 days from the last port of departure.

Effective immediately, this process is **no longer applicable**.

Crew that hold a Maritime Crew Visa (MCV, Subclass 988) and holders of a visa in an [exempt category](#) are permitted to enter Australia without the need to apply for an individual travel exemption, regardless of their vaccination status. Crew entry is at the discretion of the jurisdiction of arrival.

### **New process for arriving maritime crew**

Effective 4 March 2022:

- There is no longer a Commonwealth requirement to restrict crew on board for 14 days from last port of departure.
- As part of pre-arrival reporting requirements, the new '*Declaration of passenger and crew vaccination status for all vessels*' Form is to be submitted to the ABF with other pre-arrival reporting.
- All ships must ensure that crew and passengers carry evidence of their vaccination status with them, as evidence may be requested by Commonwealth or State or Territory health authorities.
- Approval must be sought from relevant State or Territory health authorities if any unvaccinated crew are seeking to take shore leave (including medical appointments) or sign-off the vessel. This approval must be received in writing and provided to the ABF and DAWE once received to enable associated reporting and clearance requirements.

### **Further Information**

The Declaration of passenger and crew vaccination status for all vessels can be found on the ABF website: <https://www.abf.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/entering-and-leaving-by-sea/let-us-know-youre-coming> and attached.

If you require additional information please contact regional ABF representative for advice.

The Australian Border Force appreciates your ongoing support and cooperation during this time.