S.I. No. 134 of 2021
HEALTH ACT 1947 (EXEMPTED TRAVELLER) (COVID-19)
REGULATIONS 2021
REVISED

Updated to 5 October 2021 and no further amendments have been made since this date.

This Revised Statutory Instrument is an administrative consolidation of the Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) Regulations 2021. It is prepared by the Office of the Attorney General on behalf of the Department of Health.

All statutory instruments up to and including the Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 11) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 506 of 2021) were considered in the preparation of this Revised Statutory Instrument.

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Introduction

This Revised Statutory Instrument presents the text of the Statutory Instrument as it has been amended since it was made by the Minister of Health, and preserves the format in which it was made.

Annotations

This Revised Statutory Instrument is annotated and includes textual amendments.

Statutory instruments included in this revision:

- Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 9) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 441 of 2021)
- Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 216 of 2021)
- Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 211 of 2021)
The Minister for Health, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 5, 31A (inserted by section 10 of the Health (Preservation and Protection and other Emergency Measures in the Public Interest) Act 2020 (No. 1 of 2020)) (in so far as it relates to regulations 3 and 5) and 38G (inserted by section 7 of the Health (Amendment) Act 2021 (No. 1 of 2021)) of the Health Act 1947 (No. 28 of 1947) and, in relation to regulations 3 and 5 –

(a) having regard to the immediate, exceptional and manifest risk posed to human life and public health by the spread of Covid-19 and to the matters specified in subsection (2) of section 31A, and

(b) having consulted with the Minister for Finance, Minister for Transport, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Minister for Justice,*

*With regard to S.I. No. 181 of 2021, the Minister for Justice, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media were consulted regarding Regulation 8.
hereby makes the following regulations:

1. (1) These Regulations may be cited as the Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) Regulations 2021.

    (2) These Regulations shall come into operation on the 26th day of March 2021.

2. In these Regulations –

   “Act of 1947” means the Health Act 1947 (No. 28 of 1947);

   F1 [“certification of essential services” means a written certification that is issued by a certifying body under Regulation 18(3);]

With regard to S.I. No. 183 of 2021, the Minister for Justice, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth were consulted regarding Regulations 10 and 12.

With regard to S.I. No. 216 of 2021, the Minister for Justice and the Minister for Transport were consulted regarding Regulations 13, 14 and 15.

With regard to S.I. No. 241 of 2021, the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, the Minister for Defence, the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, the Minister for Justice and the Minister for Transport were consulted.

With regard to S.I. No. 366 of 2021, the Minister for Transport, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the Minister for Justice, the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media were consulted regarding Regulations 21 and 22.

With regard to S.I. No. 419 of 2021, the Minister for Transport, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the Minister for Justice, the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media were consulted.
F2 [“certificate of recovery” means -

(a) an EU Digital Covid Certificate referred to in Article 3(1)(c) of the Digital Covid Certificate Regulation,

(b) a Covid-19 certificate that has been -

(i) issued by a state other than a Member State, and

(ii) recognised as equivalent to a certificate referred to in paragraph (a) pursuant to an implementing act adopted by the Commission in accordance with Article 3 or Article 8 of the Digital Covid Certificate Regulation, or

(c) a proof of recovery;]

F3 [“certification of vaccination” means a record or evidence in written or electronic form in the Irish language or the English language, or, where in a language other than the Irish or English language, an official translation into the Irish or English language, that contains the following information:
(a) confirmation that the person to whom the certification refers is a vaccinated person;

(b) the date or dates on which the person was vaccinated;

(c) the body in the state concerned implementing the vaccination programme (howsoever described) on behalf of the state that administered or caused to be administered the vaccination to the person concerned;]

F4 [“certifying body” means -

(a) the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications,

(b) the Minister for Defence,

(c) the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment,

(d) the Minister for Health,

(e) the Minister for Justice,

(f) the Minister for Transport, or
(g) a body specified in the Schedule;

F5 [“dependant person” has the same meaning as it has in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947;]


F7 [“essential services” mean essential repairs, maintenance, construction or safety assurance relating to -

(a) critical transport infrastructure and services (including the commissioning and decommissioning of such infrastructure and services),

(b) critical utility infrastructure (including the commissioning and decommissioning of such infrastructure),

(c) critical public services,

1 OJ No. L 211, 15.06.2021, p.1.
(d) manufacturing services,

(e) information services, or

(f) communications services;

F8 ["EU Digital Covid Certificate" has the meaning it has in the Digital Covid Certificate Regulation;]

F9 [“proof of recovery” means a record or evidence in written or electronic form in the Irish language or the English language, or, where in a language other than the Irish or English language, an official translation into the Irish or English language, that contains the data specified in subparagraphs (a) to (h) of paragraph 3 of the Annex to the Digital Covid Certificate Regulation;]

“relevant person” has the meaning assigned to it by Regulation 3;

“relevant test result” means, in relation to a transit passenger, a record or evidence, in written or electronic form, confirming that –

(a) the person has been subject to a RT-PCR test,
(b) such test was administered to the person no more than 72 hours before he or she arrives in the State, and

(c) Covid-19, or the virus SARS-CoV-2, was not detected in the person at the time of taking the test;

“RT-PCR test” means a reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction test, the purpose of which is to detect the presence of Covid-19, or the virus SARS-CoV-2, in the person to whom it is administered;

F10 [“service provider” means a person who performs essential services;]

F11 [“Sport Ireland certification” means a written certification that is provided to a person by Sport Ireland under Regulation 9(11) of the Health Act 1947 (Section 31A - Temporary Restrictions) (Covid-19) (Restrictions upon Travel to the State from Certain States) (No. 5) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 135 of 2021);]

“transit passenger” means a person prescribed under Regulation 4;

F12 [“vaccination certificate” means -

(a) an EU Digital Covid Certificate referred to in Article 3(1)(a) of the Digital Covid Certificate Regulation, or
(b) a Covid-19 certificate that has been -

(i) issued by a state other than a Member State, and

(ii) recognised as equivalent to a certificate referred to in paragraph (a) pursuant to an implementing act adopted by the Commission in accordance with Article 3 or Article 8 of the Digital Covid Certificate Regulation,

that demonstrates that the person to whom it relates is a vaccinated person.

F13 [“vaccinated person” means -

(a) a person to whom the medicinal product for active immunisation to prevent Covid-19 known as “COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna CX-024414” has been administered such that the second dose of the medicinal product concerned has been administered to the person not less than 14 days before his or her arrival in the State,

(b) a person to whom the medicinal product for active immunisation to prevent Covid-19 known as “Vaxzevria (previously COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca) ChAdOx1-SARS-COV-2” F14 [also known as
“Covishield”,] has been administered such that the second dose of the medicinal product concerned has been administered to the person not less than 15 days before his or her arrival in the State,

(c) a person to whom the medicinal product authorised for active immunisation to prevent Covid-19 known as “Comirnaty BNT162b2” has been administered such that the second dose of the medicinal product concerned has been administered to the person not less than 7 days before his or her arrival in the State, or

(d) a person to whom the medicinal product for active immunisation to prevent Covid-19 known as “COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen (Ad26.COVID-S [recombinant])” has been administered, to the person not less than 14 days before his or her arrival in the State.]

**Amendments**

3. The following persons (each of whom, in these Regulations, is referred to as a “relevant person”) are specified as relevant persons for the purposes of these Regulations:

   (a) authorised officers;

   (b) medical officers of health;
(c) officers of the Minister for Justice, being immigration officers
appointed by that Minister under section 3 of the Immigration Act
2004 (No. 1 of 2004);

(d) officers of customs (within the meaning of the Customs Act 2015 (No.
18 of 2015));

(e) any officer, employee or agent of the Health Service Executive who is
acting in the course of his or her duty as such officer, employee or
agent.

4. For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section
38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where the
person –

(a) arrives at a port or airport in the State for the purposes of travelling to
another state,

(b) does not leave the port or airport concerned before so travelling,

(c) has a relevant test result, if he or she is more than F15 [12 years of
age],
(d) presents himself or herself to a relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána on arrival at a port or airport in the State, and

(e) complies with any request of a relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána under Regulation 5.

5. A relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána may request a transit passenger:

(a) to provide such information or documentation as may be required in order to verify that the transit passenger has arrived in the State for the purposes of travelling to another state;

(b) to remain at the place where he or she presents himself or herself to the relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána, or at such other place in the port or airport as he or she may be requested to remain by the relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána;

(c) to go to such place in the port or airport as requested by the relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána or to accompany the relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána to such a place.

Amendment
For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where the person –

(a) arrives in the State during the period beginning on the 6th day of April 2021 and ending on the 11th day of April 2021 having been, within a period of 14 days prior to such arrival, in –

(i) the Republic of Albania, or

(ii) the State of Israel,

and

(b) has not during the period of 14 days prior to such arrival been in any designated state other than a state referred to in subparagraph (i) or (ii) of paragraph (a).]

Amendment

For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where the person -
(a) holds a valid Sport Ireland certification, and

(b) complies with any request of a relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána under Regulation 8.

*Amendment F17 Inserted (15.04.2021) by Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 181 of 2021), reg. 2(b).*

F18 [8] A relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána may request a person to provide such information or documentation as may be required in order to ascertain whether or not the person holds a valid Sport Ireland certification.

*Amendment F18 Inserted (15.04.2021) by Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 181 of 2021), reg. 2(c).*

F19 [9] (1) For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller -

*F20 [(a) where the person is –

(i) a child who –

(I) is accompanied by one or more than one responsible adult,*
(II) was not born in the State,

(III) has not previously been in the State, and

(IV) is travelling to the State for the purpose of becoming ordinarily resident in the State,

(ii) a responsible adult in respect of a child referred to in clause (i), or

(iii) a dependant person accompanying a responsible adult and a child referred to in clause (i),

and]

(b) the responsible adult referred to in subparagraph (a)(ii) complies with any request of a relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána under Regulation 10.

F21 [(2) In this Regulation –

“child” means a person who is under the age of 18 years;
“responsible adult” means a person (other than a dependent person) who –

(a) is 18 years of age or older,

(b) is ordinarily resident in the State, and

(c) travels to the State with a child referred to in paragraph (1)(a)(i).]

Amendments


Editorial Notes

E2 Previous affecting provision: Inserted by Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 183 of 2021), reg. 2(b); Substituted as per F20.

E3 Previous affecting provision: Inserted by Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 183 of 2021), reg. 2(b); Substituted as per F21.

F22 [10. A relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána may request a responsible adult referred to in clause (ii) of Regulation 9(1)(a) to provide such information or documentation as may be required in order to ascertain whether or not clauses (i) and (ii) and, if applicable, (iii), of that Regulation apply.]
F23 [11. For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller -

(a) where the person -

(i) has a certification of vaccination, or

(ii) is a dependant person accompanying the person referred to in subparagraph (i),

and

(b) the person referred to in paragraph (a)(i) complies with any request of a relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána under Regulation 12.]

F24 [12. A relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána may request a person referred to in Regulation 11(a)(i) to provide such information or documentation as may be
required in order to ascertain whether or not he or she is a vaccinated person and, if applicable, whether or not a person accompanying him or her is a dependant person.

**Amendment**


F25 [13. (1)] For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where –

(a) the person –

(i) is returning to the State having travelled to a state for an unavoidable, imperative and time-sensitive medical reason,

(ii) is in possession of a medical certificate from a registered medical practitioner or from a person holding an equivalent qualification outside the State to the effect that he or she had an unavoidable, imperative and time-sensitive reason for so travelling, and

(iii) complies with any request of a relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána under Regulation 14,

(b) the person is a carer in respect of a person referred to in subparagraph (a), or
(c) the person is a dependant person accompanying a person referred to in subparagraph (a) or a carer.

(2) In this Regulation, “carer” means a person (other than a dependant person) who is responsible for the care of a person referred to in paragraph (1)(a) and who returns to the State with the person concerned.

Amendment
F25 Inserted (08.05.2021) by Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 216 of 2021), reg. 2.

F26 [14. A relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána may request a person referred to in Regulation 13(1)(a) or a carer (within the meaning of Regulation 13(2)) to provide such information or documentation as may be required in order to ascertain whether or not clauses (i) and (ii) of that Regulation apply, and if applicable, whether or not a person is a carer or a dependant person, as the case may be.]

Amendment
F26 Inserted (08.05.2021) by Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 216 of 2021), reg. 2.

F27 [15. For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where the person is –]
(a) responsible for the care of a person referred to in paragraph (f) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947 and he or she travels to the State with the person concerned, or

(b) a dependant person accompanying –

(i) a person referred to in paragraph (a), or

(ii) a person referred to in paragraph (f) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947.

Amendment
F27 Inserted (08.05.2021) by Health Act 1947 (Exempted Traveller) (Covid-19) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 216 of 2021), reg. 2.

F28 [16. For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where the person -

(a) is a service provider who is not ordinarily resident in the State,

(b) holds a valid certification of essential services,

(c) travels to the State for the purpose of performing, on a temporary basis, the essential services specified in the certification of essential services, and
(d) complies with any request of a relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána under Regulation 17.]

Amendment

F29 [17. A relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána may request a service provider to provide such information or documentation as may be required in order to ascertain whether or not paragraphs (a) to (c) of Regulation 16 apply.]

Amendment

F30 [18. (1) A person who requires a service provider to travel to the State to perform essential services may apply to a certifying body for a certification of essential services.

(2) An application under paragraph (1) shall be made to the certifying body who performs functions in relation to the essential service concerned.

(3) A certifying body may, after consideration of an application in that behalf and where it is satisfied that a service provider is required to travel to the State to perform essential services, issue a certification of essential services subject to such terms and conditions as the certifying body sees fit.]

Amendment
For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where the person –

(a) is any one of the following:

(i) a member of staff in the Marine Survey Office of the Department of Transport;

(ii) an investigator appointed under section 26(2) of the Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Casualties) Act 2000 (No. 14 of 2000);

(iii) an Inspector of Air Accidents appointed under Regulation 5(1) of the Air Navigation (Notification and Investigation of Accidents, Serious Incidents and Incidents) Regulations 2009 (S.I. No. 460 of 2009); or

(iv) a member of staff of the Irish Aviation Authority,

(b) is returning to the State having travelled to a state to perform essential services in the course of his or her employment,

(c) holds a letter from his or her employer stating the purpose of his or her travel from the State, and
(d) complies with any request of a relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána under Regulation 20.

Amendment


F32 A relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána may request a person referred to in Regulation 19(a) to provide such information or documentation as may be required in order to ascertain whether or not paragraphs (a) to (c) of that Regulation apply.

Amendment


F33 For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of ‘exempted traveller’ in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller—

(a) where the person -

(i) is the holder of a valid vaccination certificate or a valid certificate of recovery, or

(ii) is a dependant person accompanying the person referred to in subparagraph (i),

and
(b) the person referred to in paragraph (a)(i) complies with any request of a relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána under Regulation 22.

Amendment

F34 [22.] A relevant person or a member of the Garda Síochána may request a person referred to in Regulation 21(a)(i) to provide such information or documentation as may be required in order to ascertain whether or not the person holds a valid vaccination certificate or a valid certificate of recovery, as the case may be, and, if applicable, whether or not a person accompanying him or her is a dependant person.

Amendment

F35 [23.] For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where the person –

(a) arrives in the State within the period beginning on the 14th day of August 2021 and ending on the 27th day of August 2021 having been, within a period of 14 days prior to such arrival, in –

(i) the People's Republic of Bangladesh,
(ii) the Republic of Botswana,

(iii) the Republic of Cuba,

(iv) the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

(v) the Kingdom of Eswatini,

(vi) the Republic of Fiji,

(vii) Georgia,

(viii) the Republic of India,

(ix) the Republic of Kazakhstan,

(x) Malaysia,

(xi) the Republic of Mozambique,

(xii) the Republic of the Union of Myanmar,

(xiii) the Republic of Namibia,
(xiv) the Islamic Republic of Pakistan,

(xv) the Republic of Paraguay,

(xvi) the Russian Federation,

(xvii) the Republic of South Africa,

(xviii) the Republic of Suriname,

(xix) the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago,

(xx) the Republic of Tunisia,

(xx) the Republic of Uganda,

(xxii) the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, or

(xxiii) the Republic of Zimbabwe,

and
(b) has not during the period of 14 days prior to such arrival been in any designated state other than a state referred to in subparagraph (i) to (xxiii) of paragraph (a).]

Amendment

F36 [24. For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where the person arrives in the State within the period beginning on the 11th day of September 2021 and ending on the 25th day of September 2021 having been, within a period of 14 days prior to such arrival, in –

(a) the Republic of Argentina,

(b) the Plurinational State of Bolivia,

(c) the Federative Republic of Brazil,

(d) the Republic of Chile,

(e) the Republic of Colombia, or

(f) the Republic of Peru.]

F37 [25. For the purposes of paragraph (j) of the definition of “exempted traveller” in section 38B(25) of the Act of 1947, a person is prescribed as an exempted traveller where the person arrives in the State on or after the 22nd day of September 2021.]


F38 [SCHEDULE]

The Commission for Communications Regulation

The Commission for Regulation of Utilities

The Commissioners of Irish Lights

The Courts Service

EirGrid plc
Enterprise Ireland

ESB Networks DAC

An Garda Síochána

Gas Networks Ireland

IDA Ireland

The Irish Aviation Authority

The Local Government Management Agency

The Medical Bureau of Road Safety

The National Standards Authority of Ireland

The National Transport Authority

The Permanent Defence Force

The Road Safety Authority
Amendment


GIVEN the Official Seal of

the Minister for Health,


FERGAL GOODMAN,

A person authorised under section 15 of the Ministers and Secretaries Act 1924 to authenticate the seal of the Minister for Health.