

BELIZE:

**PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF
INFECTIOUS DISEASE) (COVID-19) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 9)
REGULATIONS, 2021**

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

1. Citation.
2. Amendment of regulation 2.
3. Amendment of regulation 4A.
4. Amendment of regulation 4B.
5. Amendment of regulation 5.
6. Insertion of regulations 6A and 6B.
7. Repeal of regulation 11.
8. Insertion of new Schedule.
9. Commencement.

BELIZE:

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

No. 111 of 2021

REGULATIONS made by the Minister in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 82A of the Public Health Act, Chapter 40 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011, and all other powers thereunto him enabling.

(Gazetted 30th September, 2021).

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

Citation.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE) (COVID-19) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 9) REGULATIONS, 2021,

and shall be read and construed as one with the Public Health (Prevention of the Spread of Infectious Disease) (COVID-19) Regulations, 2021, which is hereinafter referred to as the principal Regulations.

S.I. 74 of 2021.
S.I. 78 of 2021.
S.I. 80 of 2021.
S.I. 81 of 2021.
S.I. 86 of 2021.
S.I. 88 of 2021.
S.I. 92 of 2021.
S.I. 96 of 2021.
S.I. 106 of 2021.

2. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 2 by inserting the following new term and definition in its proper alphabetical order—

Amendment of regulation 2.

““proof of immunization” means a digital copy or hard copy of a COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card issued and stamped by the Ministry responsible for health in Belize or by the relevant authority of a foreign state, whether laminated or preserved in any other form;”.

Amendment of
regulation 4A

3. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 4A(1) by repealing paragraph (a) and substituting the following—

“(a) purchasing fuel or pharmaceutical drugs;”.

Amendment of
regulation 4B.

4. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 4B (1) by repealing paragraph (c).

Amendment of
regulation 5.

5. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 5—

(a) in sub-regulation (1) by—

(i) deleting the full stop and substituting the words “, and”; and

(ii) by inserting the following proviso—

“provided further, that neck gaiters, fishing face masks, ski masks, any closed tube of fabric or other similar face, neck or head covering that resembles any of the aforementioned types of masks or which is designed to expose only part of the face, are prohibited.”; and

(b) by repealing sub-regulation (5) and substituting the following—

“(5) The owner or manager of a business, office or establishment may prescribe the types of face masks or other face (nose and mouth) covering which are permissible for entry into that business, office or establishment, but which shall not include any of the types of masks prohibited under sub-regulation (1).”.

6. The principal Regulations are amended by inserting the following new regulations immediately after regulation 6–

Insertion of regulations 6A and 6B.

“Entry into government offices, etc.

6A.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, and subject to sub-regulation (2), any person who wishes to enter a public medical institution, government office or the office of a statutory body shall, prior to entering that office, present proof of immunization together with a valid identification card.

(2) The Chief Executive Officer, Head of Department, or head of a statutory body, as the case may be, shall allow–

- (a) entry to a person, who works in that public medical institution, government office or office of a statutory body and who is not immunized, if that person presents–
 - (i) every two weeks, a negative rapid test or PCR test; or
 - (ii) an immunization card which shows that the person has received the first dose of a vaccine and the date for the second dose of the vaccine has not elapsed;

- (b) entry to a person other than a person under paragraph (a) and who is not immunized, if that person–
 - (i) has an appointment; and
 - (ii) presents any of the following–
 - (A) a negative rapid test or PCR test taken not more than two weeks prior to the date of the appointment; or
 - (B) an immunization card which shows that the person has received the first dose of a vaccine and the date for the second dose of the vaccine has not elapsed.

(3) A person who works in a public medical institution, government office or the office of a statutory body and who fails to comply with sub-regulations (1) or (2)(a) shall–

- (a) not be allowed to enter that public medical institution, government office or office of a statutory body; and

- (b) be deemed absent from work and subject to disciplinary proceedings in accordance with any law that regulates the services of that person.

(4) Every person having to enter any of the buildings listed below shall be required to present a negative rapid test or PCR test taken not more than two weeks before the date of entering such building or an immunization card which shows that the person has received the first dose of a vaccine and the date for the second dose of the vaccine has not elapsed—

- (a) court, for the purposes of attending as a juror, witness, party to court proceedings or in furtherance of compliance with an order of the court;
- (b) police station, for the purposes of making a police report;
- (c) prison for the purpose of being remanded or serving a prison sentence.

(5) This regulation shall not apply to—

- (a) a child under the age of twelve years;
- (b) a person seeking emergency medical attention at a public medical institution,

provided that such person shall submit to testing by the Ministry responsible for health if that person is hospitalized during that emergency visit;

- (c) a person taken to a police station for the purposes of being detained, questioned or charged,

provided that such a person shall submit to testing by the Ministry responsible for health immediately after being detained, questioned or charged.

(6) Every person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) or (2) commits an offence and shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.

Acceptable test kits and testing institutions.
Schedule IB.

6B.—(1) For the purposes of regulations 6A(2) and 6A(4), only a negative PCR test or an approved rapid test from any of the institutions specified in Schedule IB shall be accepted.

(2) For the purposes of sub-regulation (1), the following shall be the only approved rapid test kits—

- (a) SD Biosensor;
(b) Surescreen;
(c) Sofia 2; and

(d) Panbio.

(3) The Minister may, by Notice published in the Gazette, add to or remove from the list of approved rapid antigen test kits in sub-regulation (2).”

7. Regulation 11 of the principal regulations is repealed.

Repeal of regulation 11.

8. The principal Regulations are amended by inserting the following new Schedule immediately after Schedule I–

Insertion of new Schedule.

“SCHEDULE IB
[regulation 6B]

Archangel Medical Center

Belize Diagnostic Center

Belize Healthcare Partners

Belize Medical Associates

Belize Pro Lab

Belize Specialists Hospital, Gastroenterology and Endoscopy Center

Belmopan Medical Centre

Caring Hands Clinic

Dr. D’s Clinic

Northern Medical Specialty Plaza

San Carlos Medical Center

Southern Clinical Laboratory

St. Luke Hospital”.

9. These regulations shall come into force on the 1st day of October, 2021.

Commencement.

MADE by the Minister responsible for public health this 30th day of September, 2021.



(HON. MICHEL CHEBAT)

Minister of Health and Wellness
(Minister responsible for public health)