

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA



**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (DANGEROUS INFECTIOUS DISEASE) (AMENDMENT)
(NO. 21) REGULATIONS 2021**

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

2021, No. 107

*[Published in the Official Gazette Vol. XLI No. 86
dated 26th November, 2021.]*

Printed at the Government Printing Office, Antigua and Barbuda,
by Noel F. Abraham, Government Printer
— By Authority, 2021

*Public Health Act (Dangerous Infectious Disease) (Amendment)
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PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (DANGEROUS INFECTIOUS DISEASE) (AMENDMENT) (No. 21) REGULATIONS 2021, made by the Board pursuant to Section 102 of the Public Health Act, Cap. 353.

1. Citation and commencement

(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Public Health Act (Dangerous Infectious Disease) (Amendment) (No. 21) Regulations, 2021.

2. Interpretation

In these Regulations –

“principal Regulations” means the Public Health Act (Dangerous Infectious Disease) Regulations 2020, Statutory Instrument No. 16 of 2020

3. Amendment of Regulation 5A of the principal Regulations

The principal Regulations are amended in Regulation 5A as follows –

(a) **in paragraph 4 (Opening of businesses and conditions)** by –

(i) repealing subparagraph (4) and replacing it as follows:

“(4) Public transportation services may resume normal operations between the hours of 5:00am and 11:00pm., provided that the operator of the public transport and each passenger wear a face mask for the duration of the journey.”

(ii) repealing subparagraph (7) and replacing it as follows:

“(7) Every owner of a business having (5) or more persons in his or her employ shall mandate that such employees be vaccinated against COVID-19, unless the business has an 80% or higher rate of vaccination among employees.”

(b) in paragraph 5 (Mandatory vaccination for all Government employees, employees of statutory corporations, state-controlled enterprises and law enforcement etc.) -

(i) by repealing subparagraph (5) and (6) thereof and replacing these as follows:

“(5) With effect from Wednesday 1st December, 2021, subparagraph (3) will not apply to an unvaccinated employee who works or operates in a Ministry, Department or office in which there is an 80% or higher vaccination rate.

(6) All unvaccinated employees, returning to the work on the 1st December, 2021 or at any time thereafter, provided the workplace has achieved a minimum of 80% vaccination rate among its employees, shall be required to present a negative COVID-19 antigen test to the Permanent Secretary, Head of Department, Chief Executive Officer or Head of Human Resources, upon their return to work.”

(ii) by inserting after subparagraph (6) the following new subparagraph:

“(7) The antigen tests referred to in subparagraph (6) –

(a) shall be taken within 48 hours of the date on which the employee returns to work;

(b) shall be repeated every 14 days; and

(c) will be paid for by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda until December 31, 2021.”

(c) in paragraph 9 (Restriction on social gathering) —

(i) by repealing and replacing subparagraph (1) as follows:

“(1) Except as provided herein, no person shall attend any private or public gathering having more than twenty-five (25) persons.”

(ii) by inserting after subparagraph (1) the following new subparagraph as follows:

“(1A) Subparagraph (1) shall not apply to any fete, party, concert or similar gathering that has been approved by the Ministry responsible for National Festivals and Culture and which is being held in accordance with guidelines established in conjunction with the Ministry of Health.”

(a) **by reinserting after paragraph 10, the following:**

“11. Permitted Use of Beaches

- (1) Subject to subparagraph (2), a person shall be permitted to utilise the beaches for a therapeutic purpose every day of the week.
- (2) No person shall be permitted to picnic, consume alcohol or play loud music on any of the beaches for the duration of these regulations.”

(c) **in paragraph 12 (Physical exercise and sporting events), by repealing the paragraph and replacing it as follows:**

“12. Physical exercise and sporting events

- (1) A person may, during the period 5:00a.m to 10:00p.m. each day, walk, jog, run, cycle or perform any other physical activity which may lawfully be carried on.
- (2) Competitive sporting events shall be permitted in all sporting disciplines only with the approval of the Ministry of Sports.
- (3) Where approval has been granted for a competitive sporting activity, the activity shall be conducted pursuant to guidelines established between the governing association for the sport, the Ministry of Sports and the Ministry of Health.”

(j) **in paragraph 17 (Measures specifically applicable to the period 4th February to 25th February, 2021) by repealing the paragraph in its entirety.**

(g) **in paragraph 19 (Measures applicable to the effective period) by repealing the paragraph in its entirety.**

Made the 26th November, 2021

Eustace Lake,
Chairman of the Central Board of Health.