#### **BELIZE:**

## PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE) (COVID-19) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) REGULATIONS, 2021

### ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Amendment of regulation 4.
- 3. Amendment of regulation 7.
- 4. Amendment of regulation 21.
- 5. Commencement.

#### **BELIZE:**

#### STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

#### No. 147 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 20th November, 2021).

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

Citation.

# PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE) (COVID-19) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) 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. 119 of 2021. S.I. 136 of 2021.

**2.** The principal Regulations are amended by repealing regulation 4 and substituting the following–

Amendment of regulation 4.

"Curfew.

- 4.-(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19 and maintaining peace and public order, a curfew is hereby imposed, commencing on November 22, 2021 and ending on January 15, 2022, as follows-
  - (a) from Sunday to Thursday, during the hours of 10:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. of the following morning;" and

- (b) from Friday to Saturday, during the hours of 11:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. of the following morning.
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1), every minor shall be and remain within the confines of a private property during the hours of 6:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. of the following morning, provided that a minor may move in any public road during the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday and during the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday if that minor is accompanied by his parent or guardian.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-regulations (1) and (2), no person shall be on the streets or in any public place or on any public road between the hours specified in sub-regulations (1) or (2), as the case may be.
- (4) Sub-regulations (1) and (3) shall not apply to any members, who are on duty, of the security forces, Customs and Excise Department, Department of Immigration Services only, public utilities, any frontline health care provider on duty working for the Ministry responsible for health (including hospitals which are statutory bodies), or to any person who possesses a pass badge issued by the Minister responsible for home affairs or a person authorised by him.
- (5) A person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.".
- **3.** The principal Regulations are amended by repealing regulation 7 and substituting the following–

"Entry into government offices, etc.

- 7.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, every essential worker and any person who wishes to enter a government office or the office of a statutory body, whether for work or for accessing services shall, prior to entering that office, present proof of immunization, together with a valid identification card, showing that the person is either immunized or has received the first dose of a vaccine requiring more than one dose, and the date for the second dose of the vaccine has not elapsed.
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1), the Chief Executive Officer, Head of Department, or head of a statutory body, as the case may be, shall allow entry to a person seeking services of that office, other than an essential worker, who is not an employee of that government office or the office of a statutory body and who is not immunized, if that person-
  - (a) has an appointment; and
  - (b) presents any of the following-
    - (i) a negative rapid test or PCR test taken not more than two weeks prior to the date of the appointment; or
    - (ii) an immunization card which shows that the person has received the first dose of a vaccine requiring more than

one dose, and the date for the second dose of the vaccine has not elapsed.

- (3) A person who works in a government office or the office of a statutory body and who fails to comply with sub-regulations (1) shall-
  - (a) not be allowed to enter that 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 negative 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 subregulation (1) or (2) commits an offence and shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.".
- **4.** The principal Regulations are amended by repealing regulation 21(4) and substituting the following-

Amendment of regulation 21.

"(4) Restaurants, saloons, diners and other similar establishments allowed to operate under this regulation may offer dining-in services by reservation only, for no more than fifty per centum of its seating capacity.".

Commencement.

**5.** These Regulations shall come into force on the 22nd day of November, 2021.

**MADE** by the Minister responsible for public health this 18th day of November, 2021.

HON. MICHEL CHEBAT
Minister of Health and Wellness
(Minister responsible for public health)