



# **SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

## **GENERAL NOTICE 5 of 2021**

REF: 3/7/6/1/5

16 July 2021

### **NOTICE TO:**

1. All registered social workers, social auxiliary workers, student social workers, social auxiliary work learners, child and youth care workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers and student child and youth care workers;
2. Employers of social service practitioners and
3. Higher education and training institutions

### **ROLLOUT OF THE VACCINATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONALS**

1. SACSSP and the Department of Social Development portfolio heard the pleas from social service professionals to be counted amongst the cohort to receive the vaccination due to the nature of the social service professional's various line functions in society.
2. A social cluster was formed to engage with the Department of Health represented by the Acting Director General of the Department of Social Development, Mr Linton Mchunu. We are pleased to inform the sector that approval has been granted for the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination programme for the Department of Social Development Sector/ Portfolio with effect from 19-23 July 2021 using the available vaccination sites.
3. Stringent criteria set by the Department of Health have been met and the following categories will be eligible to vaccinate on this rollout phase;
  - a) All social service professionals, both in government, NPO sector rendering social services and private sector.
  - b) ECD workforce
  - c) Community development practitioners
  - d) All staff employed by SACSSP, Department of Social Development, SASSA and NDA across the country.
4. The benefit of this rollout is that practitioners within the sectors mentioned above do not need to pre-register on the Electronic Data Vaccination System (EVDS) as their details have been submitted to the Department of Health already.
5. It is therefore requested that line managers facilitate a schedule and support their staff to vaccinate during the 5 (five) day period, of this rollout at vaccination sites closer to their places of work or residence or any site that will be identified by their employers.
6. To safeguard our social service professionals' details, SACSSP adhered to the provisions as outlined in POPIA and through the social cluster process, exemption application was lodged with the Information Regulator to cover the issue of consent. Furthermore, a non-disclosure agreement between Department of Social Development and Department of Health will secure that whilst the Department of Health have the data from SACSSP, the data will be used for the intended purpose only.
7. It must be emphasised that this vaccination rollout is voluntary, however SACSSP recommends that all social service professionals use this opportunity to vaccinate in numbers to protect themselves

from COVID-19 and safeguard the end users of social service professionals' services at community level or in respective congregated settings (respite care centres, secure care centres, residential care facilities etc.).

8. Social service professionals are requested to share their vaccination journey and or testimonials on our social media pages our Facebook: @OfficialSACSSP using any of these hashtags #IchoosevacciNATION, #SACSSPvacciNATION and #DSDvacciNATION or on Twitter: @SACSSP1
9. Seeing that there is still uncertainty in some parts of the country due to the recent spates of lootings and vandalism, regular updates and communication feeds will be shared during the course of the weekend in case some of the vaccination sites are no longer accessible or if the dates have to change due to circumstances beyond our control.
10. Dates may vary according to provincial readiness.

**ISSUED BY:** REGISTRAR: Ms Langi LC Malamba